

# EEC on brink of collapse after fiasco in Athens

From Ian Murray, Athens

The longest ever European summit ended in Athens yesterday in total failure bringing the EEC to the brink of financial and political collapse. It was not even possible to agree a final statement because the 10 European leaders, weary after three days of pounding through details, decided that anything they stated in writing could only make matters worse.

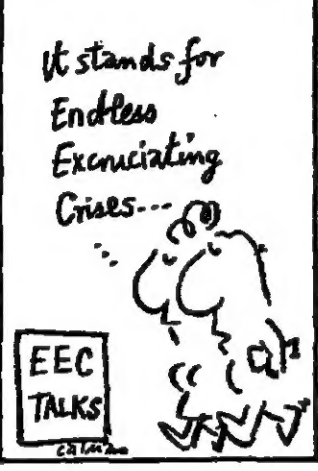
The summit failure means that there can be no early budget deal to solve Britain's problems and no quick brake on soaring agriculture expenditure which is dragging the Community into bankruptcy.

It also means that there will be no early moves to incorporate Spain and Portugal into the Community and it means increasing difficulties with the United States and the Third World because of trade policies.

Most important of all failure in Athens means that there will be no extra cash to bail the Community out of its financial crisis until such time as Mrs Margaret Thatcher is prepared to make it possible.

The Community now seems certain to run short of money next autumn. There is also a danger that the European Parliament will block next year's budget or at least freeze payment to Britain of £457m in a rebate which Britain insists it must have by the end of March.

Britain may now have to prize yet another rebate out of the Community for next year, to tide it over until such time as there can be a final agreement, which will itself be increasingly difficult to reach.



European poll pointer

## Summit row can help Tories

By Anthony Bevin, Political Correspondent

Conservative and Labour MPs expect Common Market negotiations over budgetary arrangements and the Common Agricultural Policy to reach their climax at the Paris summit next June.

The French have not yet decided the date of that summit, which will follow a preliminary skirmish in Brussels next March. But it is possible that the confrontation will affect the European Parliament elections on June 14.

A Labour source said yesterday that Mrs Thatcher had in the past proved adept at using Common Market battles and clashed to her political advantage at home and she could be planning to do the same in June.

If negotiations are deadlocked, according to other Labour sources, the Opposition will attempt to portray Mrs Thatcher and Market membership as failures.

Meanwhile, Conservative MPs yesterday greeted the failure of Athens with some relief, arguing that a quick successful conclusion would have meant a raw deal for the United Kingdom.

Conservatives who take a more robust negotiating stance were yesterday pointing out that the deadlock would only be broken when the Community's farmers accepted that the "golden goose" of CAP was about to be cooked by Mrs Thatcher.

Whether the Prime Minister would, in the process, implement the threat to withhold payments to Brussels remained a matter for debate.



Journey of hope: Mr Lars Ljungberg is wheeled to an intensive care ward after his heart-lung transplant operation at Harefield Hospital yesterday. Photograph: Brian Harris.

## Heart-lung transplant 'a success'

By Thomson Prentice Medical Reporter

The doors of the operating theatre swung open a few minutes before 3 pm yesterday and the trolley bearing Mr Lars Ljungberg, Britain's first long and heart transplant patient, was gently wheeled along a small corridor into intensive care.

The new life that Mr Ljungberg hopes for was made possible at Harefield Hospital, West London, by two teams of five surgeons after an operation lasting five hours and fifteen minutes. The teams were led by Mr Magdi Yacoub, who has performed 77 heart transplants at the hospital.

Mr Ljungberg, a Swedish sports journalist, aged 32, had been at Harefield, waiting for the operation, for six weeks after being flown from Sweden, where heart transplants are not permitted.

The operation went ahead after an unidentified woman died of a brain haemorrhage on Monday. Her body was kept on a ventilator to preserve the vital organs until surgery began at 9 am yesterday.

Two teams of surgeons were needed because one had to prepare Mr Ljungberg while the other removed the heart and lungs from the donor.

A heart after the operation, the hospital secretary, Mr David Thompson, said: "The operation to give Lars a new heart and lungs has been carried out successfully. The patient took the five-hour operation very well and is recovering in a ventilator in the intensive care unit."

"Mr Yacoub has said he is pleased with the operation which went very smoothly. All the staff at Harefield are delighted that Lars has responded so well and he is likely to remain on the ventilator for up to 48 hours."

Surgeons expect to be able to assess his chances of a full recovery within a week.

The transplant was necessary to treat a condition called pulmonary hypertension, which is caused by a thickening and congestion of the lungs, making it difficult for the heart to pump blood through them. The body

## Bomb on Jerusalem bus kills four

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

The dangerous level of tension in the Middle East was heightened yesterday when a large bomb exploded on a crowded Israeli bus without warning, killing at least four passengers and wounding 43 others, some of whom suffered serious mutilation.

The attack, which took place in West Jerusalem not far from the tomb of Dr Theodor Herzl, the founder of the Zionist movement, caused a profound sense of shock and speculation that it might provoke a strong Israeli response against Palestinian positions in Lebanon. It was the first time since September 1979 that Israeli civilians have been killed in a bomb attack inside Israel.

In an effort to reassure the public, already concerned at the possibility of a new war with Syria, the office of Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Prime Minister, quickly issued a statement.

"The security forces are making every effort to detect the perpetrators of this wicked assault, who will not remain unpunished," it said. Scores of Arabs were arrested for questioning.

As well as causing a loss of personal tragedies, the explosion was a blow for the Likud Government which has always staunchly maintained that one of the results of the 1982 invasion of Lebanon would be to reduce the effectiveness of the PLO as a fighting force inside Israel and in the occupied territories.

Security sources claimed initial investigations had revealed that the bomb contained nails designed to increase the number of casualties. Certainly, it caused horrific wounds and burns among the unsuspecting passengers.

The timing was seen in political circles as a deliberate PLO attempt to stir up trouble in the Middle East and as a snub to the Government in the wake of the recent controversial prisoner exchange in which nearly 100 convicted PLO terrorists were released from Israeli jails, where many were serving life sentences for murder.

● LONDON: The Prime Minister will come under Continued on back page, col 2

## Electricity price to be held down

By Philip Webster Political Reporter

Electricity prices are unlikely to go up before next autumn, and then by less than 1 per cent. Ministers have been told by the Electricity Council that it can meet the extra loan repayments that it will be required to make to the Treasury next year without an increase in April, and with only a small increase midway through the next financial year.

The Cabinet, before the autumn statement of Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, decided to increase the sum the Treasury will require from the industry by £322m and it was assumed that this would be achieved by an increase of around 3 per cent in April.

But the Electricity Council has refused to put up its prices, and it cannot be compelled without legislation.

It has told ministers that it can meet the new targets by continuing to improve its efficiency, helped by a better than expected price deal with the National Coal Board.

## Tomorrow

**Video...** Austin Mitchell on why the Commons must not allow the Lords to beat them to the TV cameras.

**Nasty** From East Germany, the mythical site of Hell, Roger Boyes reports on nightmare visions of a descent into the nuclear inferno.

**Noble...** The subject of the Times Profile is Lord Carrington, due to be named on Friday as Nato's new Secretary-General.

**Savage** The first of two articles on South Korea looks at the harsh treatment meted out to dissidents.

**Mad dogs...** Sandy Wilson reviews the lyrics of Noel Coward and Cole Porter.

**And Englishmen** Stuart Jones on England's opponents and the rest of the draw for the World Cup qualifying rounds.

## New hope for Radio Times

The bumper Christmas issue of Radio Times should now be published after a decision by the print union, Sogat '82, to obey a High Court injunction stopping its strike.

Talks at the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service offices between the Messenger newspaper group and the NGA print union failed to produce agreement. They will resume in Manchester today.

## Nato split

Nato foreign ministers from Western Europe are expected to reject an American call for higher spending on new military technology.

## Guard accused

A security officer was charged with involvement in the £26m gold bullion robbery from a warehouse near Heathrow, where he works, last month.

## Car sale record

New car sales in Britain for the first 11 months of the year, totalling 1,720,000, have broken the record for any full year, traders reported.

## Freed by a hair

Mervyn Russell, who spent seven years in jail for murder, was freed after a handful of hair proved that he could not have been the killer.

## Bishop dies

Dr John Robinson, who as Bishop of Woolwich startled the Church of England with unconventional views on doctrine and sex, has died. *Obituary*, page 18.

## Lambsdorff row

The Cologne Public Prosecutor is suing a Bavarian politician for slander over criticism of the way the corruption case against Otto Graf Lambsdorff was leaked to the press.

## Le Monde crisis

Le Monde is again facing serious financial difficulties and has said it will have to lay off another 100 employees.

## Cambridge win

Cambridge beat Oxford 20-9 in the university rugby match at Twickenham yesterday, finally overcoming the dogged Oxford defence as Andrew scored 12 points and Simms set up both tries.

**Leader page, 17** Letters: On conveyancing, from Lord Harris of High Cross, and Mr E R Lee; civil defence, from Mr Douglas Hurd, MP, and Mr Charles Abbey, from Lord Charters of Amisfield, and Mr Patrick Cormack, MP. **Leading articles:** Athens summit; British troops in Lebanon; heart and lung transplant. **Features, pages 14-16** King Hussein, caught in the Israeli-Syrian crossfire; the *Messiah* comes up to scratch; calling out the pin-stripe pickets. **Spectrum:** an exclusive interview with Lech Walesa. **Wednesday Page:** dilemmas of delayed motherhood. **Obituary, page 18** Right Rev John Robinson, Mr Robert Aldrich.

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## Heseltine complains about nuclear film

By David Hewson

Mr Michael Heseltine, the Secretary of State for Defence, yesterday formally complained to the Independent Broadcasting Authority about the content of the film *The Day After* which is to be shown on Saturday night.

Mr Heseltine, who saw the film in his office on Monday, told the IBA that it provided an unbalanced portrayal of the role of nuclear weapons in deterrence and asked for an opportunity to redress the balance.

In so doing, he became the first politician to demand the right to reply to the contents of a fictional film.

"*The Day After* is basically a dramatized story about the nasty after effects of a nuclear bomb," one Independent Television executive said last night. "What do you do to balance it? Show the nice after effects?"

Mr Heseltine has been offered the opportunity to state his views during a 55-minute discussion to be broadcast after the two-hour film is shown.

But he said yesterday that there was quite obviously a political message in the film and he has asked the television

## Grenada law chief walks out on Scoon

From Trevor Fishlock New York

Mr Anthony Rushford, the British specialist on constitutional law who was Attorney-General in Grenada's interim administration, walked out of his job and left the island without telling Sir Paul Scoon, the Governor-General, or submitting a letter of resignation.

Although the Governor-General's office in St George's said diplomatically yesterday that there had been no rift, it seems Mr Rushford had been resented by fellow members of the advisory council set up to help to guide Grenada towards democracy after the American intervention.

Members were unhappy about his behaviour and found him high-handed and patronizing. He has gone to the island of Antigua.

He said before he left St George's that he was going because Sir Paul was not doing enough to restore a constitutional government.

"I have never known a Governor-General behave like him. I have never known a situation where a Governor-General appoints himself saviour of his people, calls on foreign armies and then does very little to bring about the restoration of constitutional government, which I considered my main task from the day of my appointment."

Reports in Barbados said Mr Rushford had told Mr John Kelly, the British representative in Grenada, that he was resigning and asked him to inform the Governor-General.

But a spokesman for the British High Commission in Barbados, which had been in contact with Grenada, said this was "completely untrue."

"Why would he tell the British High Commission? His first duty would be to submit his resignation to the Governor-General or to the Commonwealth Secretariat in London."

At first, Mr Rushford, who is 61, had the respect of the eight members of the Grenada interim administration. They expected much of him, because he was an undoubted expert. But he apparently upset some

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## Civil servants' union demands end to 'artificially low' pay

Nearly one civil servant in four has an income of less than £100 a week, the Civil Service Union (CSU) said yesterday as a new propaganda offensive on wages got under way in the public sector.

CSU leaders insist that the pay agreement covering more than 500,000 white-collar civil servants from April 1, 1984 must protect the low-paid, the union's general secretary, Mr. John Sheldon, said.

The union published an indictment of Government attitudes, insisting that about 133,000 manual and white-collar workers were paid less than the Council of Europe's "decent" threshold.

In its report, *Making Ends Meet* published jointly with the Low Pay Unit, the CSU says: "Wage awards have been pitched artificially low in the knowledge that they will prob-

ably be exceeded in other parts of the economy."

More than 18,000 employees in the public sector claim family income supplement, and the union argues: "For the Government to have to pay out money to its own employees in the form of means-tested benefits which it is not prepared to pay in the form of fair and decent wages is clearly both anomalous and inefficient."

The unions want a minimum rate of £100 a week. To concede that would increase the Civil Service wage bill by only 3 per cent, though it would give rises of 14 per cent to individual workers such as messengers.

Some Civil Service cleaners take home only £51 a week.

The Civil Service initiative comes just before the first big public service pay offer, due tomorrow for a million manual workers in local government.

*Making Ends Meet* (Dominic Byrne, From the Low Pay Unit, 9 Poland Street, London W1V 3DG, or the CSU, 5 Princes Street, London W2 1NJ, £1).

### 'Fiddling' dispute

The Council for Civil Service Unions wants to halt the mandatory introduction of tough new measures to stop civil servants allegedly "fiddling" their travel and subsistence claims (our Labour Reporter writes).

The Treasury has told union representatives that it regards the 38 cases of fraud uncovered in 1980-81 as "only the tip of the iceberg". The unions regard the measures as "a gross reflection on members' integrity". The 38 cases should be compared with the two million forms processed every year, they say.



Masked men firing volleys over Brian Campbell's coffin at Coalisland yesterday.

## IRA fires graveside volleys

From Richard Ford, Belfast

Masked men fired volleys of shots over the coffin of two alleged Provisional IRA terrorists shot by the Special Air Service Regiment (SAS) as they were given parliamentary funerals in Northern Ireland yesterday.

Hooded members of the Provisional IRA, wearing black berets and uniforms, flanked the coffin of Brian Campbell and Colin McGirr at separate funeral services in Coalisland and Clonoe, Co. Tyrone.

Ten masked men marched through the centre of Coalisland to the funeral of Mr. McGirr, bringing condemnation from the Democratic Unionists who described the scenes as disgraceful.

The coffin of both men were draped in the republic's tricolour with the men's berets and belts on top.

Mr. Gerry Adams, Provisional Sinn Féin MP for Belfast, West, attended both funerals.

A thousand mourners were at the funeral of Mr. Campbell at St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Chapel near where he died during the SAS ambush on Sunday. In the graveyard, four masked men came from the crowd and, to commands in Irish, three of them produced handguns and fired volleys over the coffin.

The police are still searching for a third man who fled from the scene of the ambush.

● Neil Latimer, aged 21, and Noel Bell, aged 20, formerly full-time members of the Ulster Defence Regiment from Armagh, were remanded in custody until next Monday when they appeared before Belfast magistrates yesterday charged with murdering Adrian Carroll, aged 24.

After Mr. Carroll was shot the Protestant Action Force said that it had carried out the attack.

● In the Irish Republic two men and a woman were released yesterday after being questioned by detectives searching for Mr. Don Tidy, the kidnapped stores executive.

## Guard faces £26m gold charge

By Our Crime Reporter

A security officer was accused yesterday of involvement in the £26m robbery from a warehouse near Heathrow airport, London, last month. The man works for Brinks-Mat which owns the warehouse.

Last night, detectives were understood to be questioning six other people at Hounslow police station.

Anthony John Black, aged 31, appeared at Feltham Magistrates' Court charged with being concerned with others in robbing Brinks-Mat of gold bullion, platinum, diamonds, and travellers' cheques worth a total of £26,369,777.

Mr. Black was remanded in police custody for three days. He was arrested by a police team based at Hounslow and led by Commander Frank Cater.

The robbery which took place on the morning of November 26, was the biggest in British criminal history. Three tons of gold bars were taken from the warehouse.

## SDP defies Owen on joint selection

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The Social Democratic Party has decided, against the wishes of its leader, Dr. David Owen, to allow its members to choose jointly with the Liberals an Alliance candidate in two constituencies for next June's European Parliament elections.

It will be the first time that the SDP has officially approved the joint selection of candidates, which Dr. Owen opposes as a threat to its independence and separate identity.

The move was therefore being welcomed yesterday by the Liberals and those in the SDP who favour a closer relationship, if not a merger, between the two parties and see joint selection as a first step along the way.

Dr. Owen was defeated at a private meeting of the SDP's national committee, which decided by 14 votes to 10 to allow its local parties in Tyne and Wear and Durham to proceed to joint selection.

Under a decision taken last September, the national com-

mittee could only agree to joint selection if it was satisfied that "exceptional circumstances" applied.

The SDP parties in the north-eastern negotiating unit, which covers four Euro-seats - Tyne and Wear, Durham, Cleveland and North Yorkshire and Northumberland - pleaded "exceptional circumstances" on the ground that because of the smallness of the unit, joint selection in two seats would be the only way that an agreement could be achieved.

The difficulty arose because only one of the four, Northumbria, which has gone to the Liberals, was regarded as winnable.

Dr. Owen and other senior SDP figures opposed joint selection; it was felt by some that the Local Liberals were applying undue pressure on their SDP colleagues. The majority, including Mr. Roy Jenkins, Dr. Owen's predecessor, agreed that it should be allowed under certain conditions.

## Korchnoi loses the chance to draw

By Harry Golombek

The sixth game of the Korchnoi-Kasparov Acorn Computer World Championship semi-final resumed in London on Monday.

For some time it looked as though Korchnoi would extract a draw from the rather intricate and difficult position, but after about 20 more moves he appeared to weaken and Kasparov was able to come down to an ending in which he had the Queen against Korchnoi's Rook. This was a tactical win but a little difficult to force through to its rightful conclusion.

They played about 27 more moves and Korchnoi resigned on the 77th move, making the match score 3-3.

The significance of the seventh Smyslov-Ribli game, played at the same time was

dwarfed by the mighty clash. But it was well worth watching.

Smyslov played in the massive style for which he was famous as world champion nearly 30 years ago. By the middle game he had established a Rook on the seventh rank and controlled the centre - so Ribli was under great pressure all over the board.

Smyslov broke through Ribli's defences on the King side, but had to fend off a desperate attempt at counter attack.

This he did to perfection and when the game was adjourned it looked as though Smyslov was going to add to his lead and have 4½ points to Ribli's 2½.

Seventh game  
White Smyslov, Black Ribli

1-2	3-4	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12	13-14	15-16	17-18	19-20	21-22	23-24	25-26	27-28	29-30	31-32	33-34	35-36	37-38	39-40	41-42	43-44	45-46	47-48	49-50	51-52	53-54	55-56	57-58	59-60	61-62	63-64	65-66	67-68	69-70	71-72	73-74	75-76	77-78	79-80	81-82	83-84	85-86	87-88	89-90	91-92	93-94	95-96	97-98	99-100
1-2	3-4	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12	13-14	15-16	17-18	19-20	21-22	23-24	25-26	27-28	29-30	31-32	33-34	35-36	37-38	39-40	41-42	43-44	45-46	47-48	49-50	51-52	53-54	55-56	57-58	59-60	61-62	63-64	65-66	67-68	69-70	71-72	73-74	75-76	77-78	79-80	81-82	83-84	85-86	87-88	89-90	91-92	93-94	95-96	97-98	99-100
1-2	3-4	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12	13-14	15-16	17-18	19-20	21-22	23-24	25-26	27-28	29-30	31-32	33-34	35-36	37-38	39-40	41-42	43-44	45-46	47-48	49-50	51-52	53-54	55-56	57-58	59-60	61-62	63-64	65-66	67-68	69-70	71-72	73-74	75-76	77-78	79-80	81-82	83-84	85-86	87-88	89-90	91-92	93-94	95-96	97-98	99-100

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These have been a bad six months for the Liberals and Social Democrats, and if they are not careful the coming year will be even worse.

Some of their difficulties have been inevitable: there was always bound to be a Kincock honeymoon. But they have been making the worst of an awkward spell by once again parading their differences before the eyes of a critical electorate.

The argument has once again focused on the selection of candidates - this time for the European Parliament elections in June - and once again the particular point of contention is joint selection. The dispute might have been even worse.

On Monday evening the SDP national committee voted by 14 votes to 10 to approve an agreement made by local Social Democrats and Liberals to have the candidate in two constituencies, Durham and Tyne and Wear, chosen jointly by members of both parties.

Had the vote gone the other way, there would have been outrage in the Liberal Party. Not only would joint selection have been vetoed out of hand even as an occasional solution, but the principle of local decision-making would have been rejected with it.

### Greater measure of confidence

As it is, the narrowness of the majority, especially bearing in mind that Dr. David Owen himself was in the minority, was a warning that there will be no general acceptance of joint selection by the SDP. Some of those who approved this particular arrangement have told the Liberals as much. It is intended to be an exception not a precedent.

To most people it is a matter of supreme indifference how the Liberals and Social Democrats choose their candidates. But it is very relevant that they should do so amicably. If the parties of cooperation and common sense scratch each other's eyes out over this, single

## Commentary



Geoffrey Smith

could they ever run a government together?

After Monday's decision there is a greater measure of confidence in the higher reaches of both parties that they will be able to complete the allocation of seats for the European Parliament elections without further explosions. That is important both for itself and as a precedent for the distribution of seats for the next general election.

The manner in which these matters are accomplished matters above all as an indication of how cohesive a political force the Alliance has become. I believe that it did better in the general election than many of its own members appreciate, and that it has done worse since then than it need have done because it is not clear what kind of political animal it is.

It emerged from the election campaign looking like an enterprise to which the two parties had committed their future even though they were, for the time being at least, stopping short of organic union. They came out of the party conference season looking rather more like two parties that recognized the uncomfortable necessity of electoral This second impression is not

enough to command the confidence of the electorate.

It is possible for a third force to make a serious challenge in a country with the political culture of a two-party system only if it appears capable of forming a credible government.

The statistic that ought to cause the Alliance most concern was in a Gallup poll in the *Daily Telegraph* three weeks ago which recorded 55 per cent believing that only Labour could defeat the Conservatives.

Not all the blame should be put on Dr. Owen's insistence on maintaining the separate identity of the SDP. The Liberals did not look at their conference like the kind of party with which a sensible politician would be eager to merge his fortunes, and Dr. Owen has on the whole conducted himself impressively since becoming leader of the SDP. But I am not sure that he has accepted the brutal logic of the Social Democratic position.

### Still a good long way to go

When they broke away from Labour they had to choose between trying to wipe out the Liberals or working with them. They chose to work with them; so, with all the difficulties, they have better do so convincingly.

There are a few encouraging signs. The Alliance will probably be able to enter the European Parliament elections with a joint statement of policy. Some joint study groups have been set up - another on the future of work was agreed at yesterday's meeting of the Joint Leaders' Advisory Committee. But the Liberals and the SDP have still a good way to go before they can convince the country that they have combined into an effective political force.

Overseas selling prices  
Australia \$28.50; Belgium 8 fr 50; Canada \$27.75; Denmark 120 kr 50; France 500 fr 50; Germany 100 DM 50; Greece 100 dr 50; Hong Kong \$28.50; India 100 rupees 50; Ireland 100 shillings 50; Italy 100 lire 50; Japan 100 yen 50; Korea 100 won 50; Luxembourg 100 francs 50; Malaysia 100 ringgits 50; Mexico 100 pesos 50; Netherlands 100 guilders 50; New Zealand 100 dollars 50; Norway 100 kroner 50; Portugal 100 escudos 50; Singapore 100 dollars 50; South Africa 100 rand 50; Spain 100 pesetas 50; Sweden 100 kronor 50; Switzerland 100 francs 50; Taiwan 100 dollars 50; Thailand 100 baht 50; United Kingdom 100 pence 50; USA 100 cents 50; Yugoslavia 100 dinars 50.

## Government rejects Trust plea for tax concession on estate

By Hugh Clayton

The government refused last night to make a tax concession demanded by the National Trust for the Calke Abbey estate near Burton-on-Trent. Ministers decided not to alter their earlier ruling that only the mansion and the park could be accepted in place of tax even though the trust claimed that the last chance of keeping the estate intact was about to be lost.

Agents for Mr. Henry Harpur-Crewe, who owns the 14,400-acre estate, have begun to arrange sales of outlying land to some tenants. The estate has been owned by the same family for more than 300 years and is best known for its vast mansion where nothing has been touched since Victorian times.

The trust and the Save Britain's Heritage organization regard the house as a unique piece of social history which could be kept intact and opened to the public if the Government

accepted it instead of tax and gave it to the trust complete with enough of its land to provide a maintenance endowment.

Mr. Harpur-Crewe has a tax bill of almost £9m with interest of about £1m that rising at a rate of well over £1,000 a day. The tax bill arose when Mr. Harpur-Crewe inherited the estate from his brother.

Mr. Angus Stirling, Director General of the trust, explained that the trust would need £4m for an endowment and £3.5m for capital expenditure if it accepted the estate.

That could be raised from farms surrounding the house and its immediate park. But the Government insists that it can accept only the mansion and parkland in place of tax. The farms need to provide cash for the trust to remain classed as "non-heritage" and cannot be accepted instead of tax payments.

## Callaghan's check on honours list

By Anthony Bevis

Political Correspondent

Mr. Norman Atkinson, a former Labour Party treasurer, revealed yesterday that he had been asked by Mr. James Callaghan, when Prime Minister, to check proposed honours lists.

He told the Commons during a debate on the Companies (Political Contributions) Bill that Mr. Callaghan had wanted to be sure that candidates had not made contributions to party funds.

Mr. Atkinson said afterwards that Mr. Callaghan had cited the Honours (Prevention of Abuse) Act, 1925, and had given a warning that if the person honoured had signed a contribution cheque or otherwise authorized payment, there would be a *prima facie* offence.

The Act, laying down maximum penalties of two years' imprisonment or a £500 fine makes buying or selling honours a misdemeanour.

Mr. Atkinson said: "Jim Callaghan was very fastidious about this."

Asked by *The Times* whether Mr. Callaghan had not honoured leaders of unions which had made donations to Labour Mr. Atkinson said: "They did not personally give donations."

Parliamentary report, page 4

## Random lie tests at GCHQ

By Peter Hennessy

The use of lie-detectors, or polygraphs, to "mole-proof" Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ) in Cheltenham is to be more extensive than originally thought, it was disclosed yesterday at a conference in London on Whitehall security organized by the Society of Civil and Public Servants.

A letter from the Cabinet Office to Mr. Peter Jones, secretary of the Council of Civil Service Unions, made available at the conference, stated: "The selection of those to be polygraphed will be on a random basis involving initially those whose positive vetting is due for quinquennial review."

It had been previously thought that the lie-detector would be preserved for those occupying posts in the Secret Services with access to the most sensitive information, and that it would be on a voluntary basis.

A clash with the Civil Service unions is likely in the spring, when the secret signals and electronic intelligence stations in Cheltenham will mount the first lie-detector tests.

**Correction**  
Victoria Wine's own-label cigarettes sell at 85p for 20, not 93p, as reported yesterday.

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## Handful of hair clears convicted killer after seven years in jail

Fresh evidence from a pathologist about hairs found in a murdered girl's hand yesterday cleared the man convicted of killing her seven years ago.

Mervyn John Russell, aged 39, was jailed for life by the Central Criminal Court in 1977 for stabbing Miss Alison Bigwood.

Yesterday he walked free from the Court of Appeal after Lord Lane, the Lord Chief Justice, ruled that the fresh evidence pointed inescapably to the fact that Mr Russell could not have been the killer.

Mr Russell, who had been a squatter in the block of flats in Deptford, south London, where Miss Bigwood lived, had spent more than seven years in prison since his arrest a few weeks after the killing.

He had gone to the police and admitted possession of the murder weapon, although he said the knife was also used by other squatters.

Mr Russell was convicted in October 1977 and appealed the following November. The appeal judges held that they had no "tipping doubt" over the safety of the conviction, but the law reform pressure group justice did have doubts.

The case was referred back to the Court of Appeal by the Home Office after a documentary on BBC Television's *Rough Justice* series.

The Home Office also ordered the exhumation of another man who figured in the case at the time of the killing in 1976.

Mr Russell's lawyers wanted a sample of head hair from the corpse of Mr Michael Molnar to be compared with that found in the victim's hand, but the comparison proved useless.

Lord Lane, who sat with Lord Justice Watkins and Mr Justice Macpherson, said the fresh evidence from the pathologist, Dr John Torry, had caused the court great anxiety. It pointed

inescapably to the fact that Miss Bigwood, an art student aged 20, had clutched the head of her killer and there was no doubt that the hairs did not belong to Mr Russell.

"We see no escape, despite the very strong prosecution case against this man, from the conclusion that something may very well have gone wrong in this case", he said.

The judge said earlier that circumstantial evidence was often very powerful and could sometimes outweigh identification evidence.

"But if, in a case which depends on circumstantial evidence, there are unexplained features which are not consistent with the guilt of the accused, then any conviction may well turn out to be unsafe."

Dr Torry's evidence was the only aspect of Mr Russell's new appeal that the judges allowed. Two other points were rejected.

After the case, Mr Tom Sargent, former secretary of Justice, said he would press for compensation for Mr Russell.

Mr Sargent said Mr Russell was "in a state of extreme shock. Right up until the last moment he thought he was going back to prison tonight."

He said Mr Russell would spend his first night of freedom with friends in London. "He has not had time to think about the future yet."

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## Car sales set record but imports fall

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

New car sales in Britain for the first 11 months of this year broke the previous record for any full year, thanks to a sudden upsurge in buying during the closing days of November.

More than 1,720,000 cars were registered from January to November, compared with 1,716,000 in the whole of 1979.

But November was not a happy month for the importers. New car registration details released by the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders yesterday showed that the

importers' 53.7 per cent share of the market was the second lowest in three years.

Datsun, the largest importer, saw its November share fall from 10.3 to 5.2 per cent. Volkswagen-Audi was another substantial loser, down from 7.8 to 4.2 per cent.

But the biggest contributor to the improved fortunes of British built cars was Ford which has been importing nearly half its sales from West

## Rugby star abandons libel action

Dr J P R Williams, the former Welsh rugby international, said yesterday he is abandoning his libel action over allegations of "shamateurism" made in the *Daily Telegraph*.

His decision came after a Court of Appeal ruling yesterday which means he will have to pay an estimated £30,000 costs. He said he was withdrawing because of strain on his family and his financial resources.

Dr Williams, aged 33, an orthopaedic surgeon, was awarded £20,000 damages last year over allegations that he broke the rules by accepting money for his autobiography.

Last month the Court of Appeal quashed the award and ordered a new trial.

The newspaper will have to pay an estimated £50,000 costs.

J. P. R. Williams: Strain on family.

## £5,000 an acre for prime land

By Christopher Warman Property Correspondent

Competition for prime agricultural land has forced prices for small acreages to record levels of up to £5,000 an acre in the past few months, particularly in the fenland area of East Anglia, according to a report published yesterday.

Writing in *Property Outlook '84* published by Savills, surveyors and property consultants, Mr Henry Richards says that during the year prices for the best farms have increased by 10 to 20 per cent, and continued improvement is expected for 1984.

The area attracting the highest prices is a small part of the fens, about 40,000 acres, in the Spalding and Boston area of Lincolnshire. In September small parcels of Grade 1 silt land, fetched from £3,500 an acre. Grade 1 land comprises about 2 per cent of agricultural land, of which one-sixth is silt.

In a separate article, Mr Geoffrey van Cutsem predicts a 12 per cent increase during 1984 for residential property as a whole.

## Charge over boy in waste bin

A schoolboy aged 12 appeared at Camberwell Juvenile Court, south London, yesterday, accused of taking away a boy aged 4 by force and causing him actual bodily harm. He was remanded in the care of Southwark Borough Council until next Tuesday.

The boy he is accused of taking was found in a waste bin in Burgess Park, Walworth, south London.

## Hypnotic drive for more sales

A security firm in Tamworth, Staffordshire, is sending its five salesmen for weekly half-hour sessions with a hypnotist to encourage them to "get up and go" and increase orders.

The managing director, Mr Dennis Wall, said he had tried giving them "pep" talks and taking them for a drink but he thought the hypnotist would be even more effective.

## Deadline met

The UK Optical Company at Cydwell, Dyfed, has taken just 10 weeks to make 1,500,000 spectacles lenses for the Soviet Union, taking on an extra 120 staff to complete the order in time.

## Maritime Museum to charge

By Our Arts Correspondent

The National Maritime Museum is to become the first national museum to impose admission charges in an attempt to compensate for public spending cuts.

Visitors to the museum and the Old Royal Observatory, both at Greenwich, south London, will pay £1.50 admission from next April, with reduced rates for children, pensioners, the disabled and unemployed, and people living near the museum.

Dr Neil Cossons, the museum's director, said yesterday: "The only way forward I can see is to increase revenue. This would bring in £500,000 of new money to increase our disposable income by 34 per cent, so it is a very significant extra."

The museum attracts about 600,000 visitors a year, and receives nearly £6m in public subsidy from the Office of Arts and Libraries and the Property Services Agency.

The extra money will enable the museum to reopen on Mondays and on public holidays when it has traditionally been closed. More than half will be devoted to restoring services, marketing the museum and catering for people living near it, Dr Cossons said.

## BR tries airliner-style coaches

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

More prosaically but more important to the Engineering management, the "international coach" is intended to win the state rolling-stock builder a bigger slice of the world market than the meagre 2 per cent it has now.

The coaches will cost about £250,000 each, and the firm hopes to capture £20m of business a year by offering luxury carriages suitable for practically any leading gauge. Africa and the Middle East are regarded as prime targets for the company.

Mr Philip Norman, the company's managing director, said yesterday: "My international coach is going to be the return of the real first class. We are trying to break into the international market." But many jobs and perhaps the future of the company's huge

workshops in Derby also rest on the prestige venture.

British Rail Engineering has reduced its labour force by about a quarter in the past three years, from 37,000 down to 28,000 and manpower is set to be cut still further next year with the closure of the 1,200-employee Shildon wagon works in co Durham by June 30.

Temple Mills works in east London has practically shut, and Horwich, near Bolton, Greater Manchester is in the throes of closure.

The company bidding for £120m worth of orders in Nigeria and for a similar amount of business in Greece for high-speed trains, locomotives, rail buses and wagons. Orders from sources other than British Rail have totalled £12m in the past six weeks. Among them is an order for coaches to be supplied to the Irish Republic.



New butchering trend: The meat in the upper tray is traditionally-cut silverside. The rest is steaks cut from silverside by seaming a single muscle.



Cheers, a Charolais-Aberdeen Angus cross, voted supreme champion at Smithfield yesterday.

## Meat trade's quest to sell more beef

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

To no one's surprise, the supreme champion of this year's Royal Smithfield Show is yet again a Charolais-Aberdeen Angus cross steer and yet again from Scotland.

Present conventional wisdom is that the mating of big continental breeds with native beef cattle is the way to get the best of both worlds.

However, it is no disrespect to this year's winner, Cheers, or to its owner, Mr John Lascelles, of Carnoustie, Tayside, to suggest that it is not particularly relevant to the present problems of the meat industry.

For several years consumption of beef and lamb has been declining. This is generally attributed to their relatively high prices and to the competitive appeal of processed convenience foods, but Mr Geoffrey Harrington, director of planning and development at the Meat and Livestock Commission, thinks that it may also be due to dissatisfaction with quality.

There are several possible reasons why beef is not what it used to be, the main one being that dairy herds have rapidly expanded at the expense of beef herds. Most beef, therefore, comes from Friesian or Holstein bullocks which, for all their mothers' prowess as milk producers, do not provide the most tender or tasty meat.

Another reason is that modern slaughterhouse techniques involve rapid chilling of carcasses, with no time for the meat to hang properly. Butchers have complained that because the animals are bigger than they used to be, they are slaughtered too early instead of being left to grow to maturity.

Scientists tend to dismiss such complaints as nonsense and the acronym came to a head at the recent Scottish Agricultural Winter Fair when one of the judges described the commission as "crackpots" for encouraging the production of excessively lean meat.

The commission is now setting up consumer panels to test acceptability.

## Dissections in biology lessons for review

By Lucy Hodges Education Correspondent

Complaints about the cutting up of animals in biology lessons are causing the nine GCE examination boards in England, Wales and Northern Ireland to consider whether dissection should be required for O and A level.

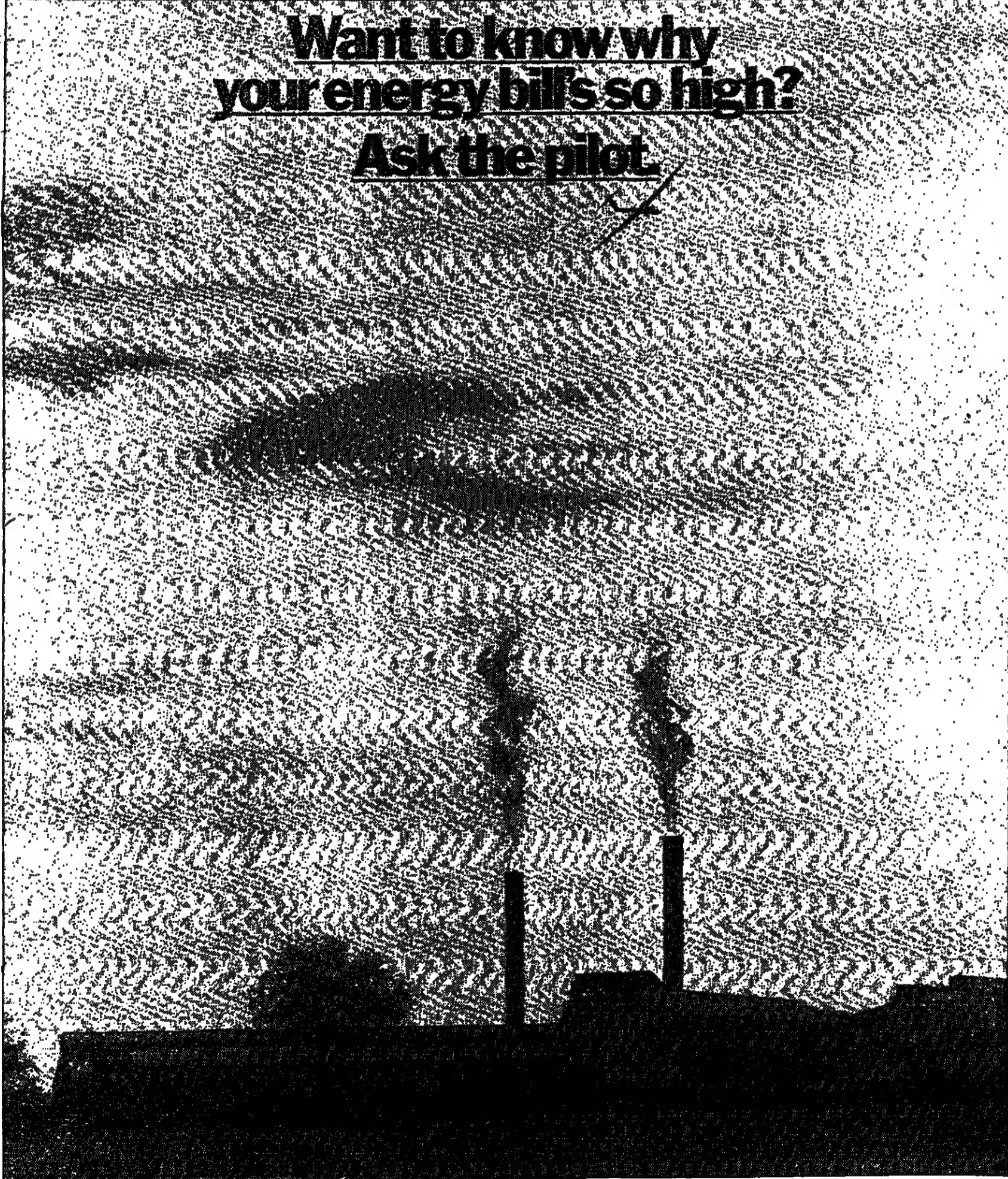
The boards' biology subject officers are to discuss a paper surveying present practices and attitudes and whether these should be changed. The paper will be prepared by Mr Howard King, a biologist and one of the secretaries of the Oxford and Cambridge Schools Examination Board.

This initiative comes as the British Union for the Abolition of Vivisection is distributing leaflets entitled *Dissection: Your Right to Refuse* to schools and coincides with a similar review by the Inner London Education Authority. Some children have refused to take part in dissection exercises.

Mr King said the Oxford and Cambridge boards had received only three complaints, all from members of the public. But local education officers had also approached the boards to ask for a clarification of present practices.

Most of the nine examination boards include dissection of a mammal almost always a rat, in the syllabus for practical A level biology and zoology. It will not always appear on an examination paper, but if it does and the pupil declines to answer, he or she will lose marks. The Associated Examining Board does not require dissection.

Dissection of an animal by a pupil is not required for biology O level although examiners expect children to know about the insides of a mammal. They would learn about this from models, diagrams and films or perhaps by switching their teacher perform a dissection.



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Any glider pilot will tell you that a glider rises on hot air currents, or thermals. And that one of the best places to find a thermal is over a factory.

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It's good news for you, but perhaps not quite such good news for the pilot.

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ENERGY EFFICIENCY OFFICE



## PARLIAMENT December 6 1983

## PM to report on UK troops in Lebanon

## MIDDLE EAST

The position of British troops in the Lebanon was under constant review, Mr John Biffen, Lord Privy Seal and Leader of the House told the Commons when answering questions on behalf of the Prime Minister.

He said the review would take into account recent action between United States and Syrian forces and acknowledged that the sombre mood of MPs during yesterday's statement on the Lebanon reflected British public opinion of events there.

Mr Donald Stewart, Leader of the Scottish National Party, raising the Lebanon issue spoke of the virtually unanimous expressions of opinion from every party in the House yesterday (Monday).

In view of the suggestions of a joint Israeli-United States attack on Syria, will Mr Biffen represent to the Prime Minister that the whole thing could be defused and people brought to their senses by the immediate withdrawal of British forces?

Mr Biffen: I will draw the attention of the Prime Minister to the point he makes. This was one of the topics covered at the European summit in Athens and will feature in the report Mrs Thatcher will be making to the House tomorrow (Wednesday).

Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, said that the concern in all parts of this House at the fact that our troops are being unjustifiably endangered in Beirut. They are being endangered because of American policy which the Government can neither control, influence or, it appears, agree with.

Will he use his influence to ensure that British troops are home from the Lebanon by Christmas?

Mr Biffen: No one who was present in the House yesterday could be aware of the widespread anxiety there is about the position of troops in the Lebanon. That point does not need to be made to the Government because it shares that anxiety as it is responsible for our troops there.

The position of the troops is under constant review and they will take into account events as they happen day by day, including events between America and the Syrians.

## Aid and comfort to communist friends

## NUCLEAR

Mr John Biffen, Lord Privy Seal and Leader of the Commons, agreed with a Conservative MP that CND's call for British withdrawal from Nato would give aid and comfort to their friends in communist countries.

Mr Marcus Fox (Shirely, C) said that the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament had restated their policy for British withdrawal from Nato.

Would he agree (he added) that this is just the sort of action to give aid and comfort to their friends in communist countries?

Mr Biffen: I agree entirely because if CND policy goes beyond weapons to wider foreign policy issues and seeks to take this country out of the alliance which has been the cornerstone of security in the post-war generation, the public will know that CND means neutralism and unilateralism.

Earlier, Mr Roy Hargreaves (Newport, East, Lab) asked: Has there been any change in Government policy about American bases in this country? I have a report that parts of cruise missiles are coming in via Barry Docks for storage at Caerwent?

Mr Biffen: I was informed by Lord Trevelyan at the Ministry of Defence that he could not attempt to answer the question whereas previously we had been assured that there would be no nuclear presence at Caerwent. Will

he shed light on a subject which is causing anxiety?

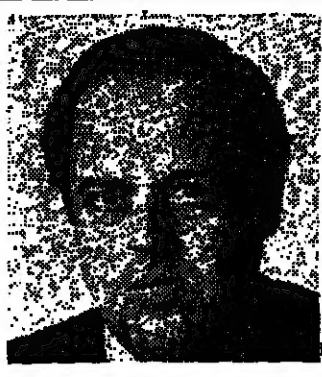
Mr Biffen: I am not certain of Mr Hughes's desire for information but I can assure him that British policy on the bases of its major allies remains unchanged, as it is our desire that this country should remain part of Nato, and our determination that we should not fall to the blandishments of the unilateralists and neutralists.

Mr Amery Markham (Northampton, North, C) would he advise the Camden Women Against Cruise Workshop to go flushing at Greenham Common, not to bother but instead to see *The Day After* and understand that the only reason such a disaster has not been inflicted on these islands in the past 40 years is the fact that we have an independent nuclear deterrent?

Mr Biffen: That advice is well directed and I am certain there will be much merit for those who see *The Day After* so that they can see exactly what one is seeking to deter and conclude that in the post-war generation the world has been preserved from nuclear war.

**£141m for Ulster troops**

Mr John Stanley, Minister of State for the Armed Forces, said in a Commons written reply that the extra cost of military operations in Northern Ireland in the financial year 1983-84 was estimated at £141m at outturn prices.



Soames: If attacked will we have air power?

of the nature of the agreement between the United States and Israel last week. If so, what are its terms?

Mr Biffen: I am not in a position to answer that question and I, therefore, would not seek to do so.

Mr Nicholas Soames (Crawley, C) in view of objections to the use of self-defence by the Americans, will Mr Biffen confirm that, in the event of our troops being attacked we shall have the use of air power available to us?

Mr Biffen: Yes, Mr Soames makes a fair point.

Mr Andrew Faulds (Warrley, East Lab) Is any member of the Government in a position to answer the question whether the Government was consulted before the Americans drew up their strategic agreement with Israel?

Mr Biffen: I have no doubt that the normal arrangements between allies will have been pursued, but as I said before, I am not in a position to answer the question so I will not attempt to.

Mr Julian Amery (Brighton, Pavilion, C) The murder of nearly 300 American civilians by forces supported by the Syrian Government left the Americans no alternative (Labour interruptions). Will he assure us that if British forces suffer any casualties at all, we would not back just as hard?

Mr Biffen: Any retaliatory action which might be undertaken by British forces in that part of the Middle East must be related to the military potential at their command.

As to the wider issue of the multinational force, that must be a matter for consultation between allies acting in concert. The meeting of foreign ministers of the multinational force on Thursday will be the occasion for that.

Mr Jack Straw (Blackburn, Lab) Has the Government been informed

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## Prospects of more in work and cut in long-term jobless

## EMPLOYMENT

There were encouraging signs in the unemployment situation, Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Employment, said during Commons questions. For the first time he added, it was possible to see real prospects of more people in real jobs and real prospects of seeing a reduction in long-term unemployment. There had been an increase in the number at work.

After he said that the number of unemployed claimants in the UK was 3,084,416 and that those unemployed for more than a year numbered 1,142,898, Mr Jack Dorman (Essex, Lab) said the number of long-term unemployed was the biggest indictment of the Government's disastrous economic policies.

He went on: If he really regards the pitiful reduction in unemployment in the last two months as a success, would he like to guess how long it will take the Government to get unemployment down to that under Labour when the Tories took office? What is he doing to meet the objections of the CBI to the Government's policies?

Mr King: It is really an indictment of the serious lack of competitiveness in British industry which has existed for far too long. The Labour Party made a major contribution to this in ignoring it and, left, in the teeth of the necessity, would be like to guess how long it will take the Government to get unemployment down to that under Labour when the Tories took office? What is he doing to meet the objections of the CBI to the Government's policies?

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## Rejection of Bill on honours and political donations

## PARTY FUNDS

An application by Mr Anasta Mitchell (Great Grimsby, Lab) for leave to bring in a Bill to limit political donations by companies so that such donations were paid by assessing shareholders in proportion to the size of their shareholdings, and to regulate the method of payment, was rejected in the Commons by 271 votes to 172 - majority against, 99.

He said he proposed that company donations should be permitted only if authorized by a ballot of shareholders. That ballot should be repeated at regular intervals, say every 10 years. The bill should authorize the setting up of a company political fund financed by deductions from the dividends of those shareholders who did not opt out of the donation.

Those who did not opt out would pay tax on their donation to a political party as if it were a distributed dividend. It would be treated like union subscriptions which came out of post-tax income.

It also made the whole procedure above board because it would be supervised by the Registrar of Companies. It guaranteed that everybody not only knew what they were giving but consented to it. It was a vital protection when 30 per cent of the equity of quoted companies was owned by pension funds.

This measure would cast light on an area where at present there was darkness and obscurity. Where there was ignorance of that kind, there could be the imputation that undesirable practices were going on. That imputation became striking when it was found that the Department found in its comparison of eight honours lists with donations to the Conservative Party, that there was a correlation between generosity to the Conservative Party and honours.

Only a small number of peerages and knighthoods went to people described as directors of public companies: only 41 in the last eight honours lists. Yet 41 came from companies which had given a

total of £2.7m to the Conservative Party.

All eight peerages to directors and chairmen of companies went to men who shared certain characteristics. Each of the eight was a dominant influence in his company and in a strong position to influence the decision to give to the Conservative Party.

Those eight companies contributed 10 per cent of the known income of the Conservative Party from companies. What was happening was totally contrary to the spirit and intention of the 1925 Act. It was something which merited a full independent inquiry.

It was calculated that 18 companies had given £90,000 or more to the Conservative Party over the past four years. Of those 18, 14 had been cited by the directors honoured by the Conservative Government. The companies that had dominated Conservative fund-raising had been honoured at twice the rate of companies that had dominated the economy.

These trends indicated that company directors who got honours had to work harder, innovate harder and export far more if their company did not donate to the Conservative Party than those whose companies did.

This was not a party political matter. It was a problem of the integrity of the honours system. It merited inquiry. The Bill would bring the matter of contributions into the open and place it on a democratic and accountable basis.

The information from the Registrar of Companies would be made available under the Bill to the Honours Scrutiny Committee. Money was bound to talk: the House had a duty to stop it swearing.

Mr Cranley Osleay (Woking, C) said that this was not a party political measure was pretty thin. What Mr Mitchell was saying was that the integrity of the Honours Scrutiny Committee was open to attack and he was attacking it.

This committee was set up in the 1920s to prevent any repetition of the scandalous sale of honours by Lloyd George and the Liberal Party. The committee came to public attention again more recently as a

result of what *The Times* described yesterday as the resignation list of 1976 - known more commonly and widely as the lavender notepaper mob.

Everybody remembered what controversy caused Mr James Callaghan who suggested Lord Wilson as Prime Minister. Mr Callaghan was thinking about doing something, but before he got round to acting, the 1979 election took place and it was left to the present Prime Minister to act. There was no reason to suppose that her directions had been relaxed.

What the House had today was a shabby and dishonest attempt on the integrity of the members of the Political Honours Scrutiny Committee. This was a sordid little proposal and should be voted down. Mr Norman Ashton (Tottenham, Lab) said that during the last Labour government an oil company offered a substantial donation to the Labour Party when the allocation of oil rights in the North Sea was about to be made. That donation was rejected by the Labour Party because of the sensitivity of the situation.

The party decided never to accept donations from limited companies, or any other form of grouping that could be considered an influence concerning the allocation of North Sea oil rights, titles or favours of that kind.

Under the 1925 Act (he continued) Mr Callaghan asked me and other leading members of the Labour Party with access to the funds at the time to scrutinize very carefully that one person who either appeared on a list or any other recent list had made a donation of any sort to the Labour Party, and that fact was verified.

If that person was a company, he believed to be true, were proved under the 1925 Act it could mean imprisonment for the Prime Minister. Because of the seriousness of the charge, it was not recalled and adjourned until the House had further information. (A Labour shout of "Bring her to the bar".)

The Speaker, Mr Bernard Weatherill, said that if Mr Mitchell was given leave to bring in his Bill all these matters might be gone into.

## Selection not immoral or illegal

## EDUCATION

The prophets of doom who had said the passing of the grammar schools in favour of comprehensive would mean the most able children would suffer, had been proved wrong, Mr Giles Radice, chief Opposition spokesman on education, said yesterday. The current stage of the Education (Grants and Awards) Bill, Statistics showed that results at both 'O' and 'A' level examinations had improved in the last decade.

The Bill will allow payment of education support grants to local education authorities in England and Wales



# Judges criticize labour laws for 'curious result' in Dimbleby case

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

The Court of Appeal dealing with a union dispute at Mr David Dimbleby's newspaper group strongly criticiz... the Government's labour laws yesterday.

Giving reasons for rejecting an appeal by the National Union of Journalists, the judges declared that the Employment Act, 1980, had produced a "curious result" in the case.

The union has been defying a High Court injunction ordering it to withdraw a strike instruction given to its members at the Richmond & Twickenham Times group in south-west London owned by Mr Dimbleby, the broadcaster.

The journalists are taking action because Mr Dimbleby decided to transfer the printing of his newspapers to the non-union TBF Printers in Nottingham.

The union argued that because the company was associated with T. Bailey Foreman, with which it has a five-year-old dispute, the strike could not be described as "secondary action" and therefore illegal.

The Court of Appeal yesterday explained that the action was secondary because the two companies were separate legal entities, and it refused leave for the union to appeal to the House of Lords. But the judges expressed strong reservations about the effect of the law.

If T. Bailey Foreman had produced the papers on its own presses, the union's action would have been protected. However, owner of the business chose to operate through an associated company, TBF Printers, so the union did not have the protection of the law.

Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, said some people think it odd that the union's liability should depend on what might reasonably be regarded as almost a matter of chance.

"Whether or not the union would be right so to regard the position, that appears without doubt to be the law," Sir John said.

Lord Justice Griffiths said the dispute that had blown up had nothing to do with the Dimbleby journalists' terms and conditions of employment. Neither the union nor the journalists had raised any complaint about their terms and conditions.

One union source said that employers now had only to set up numerous "ghost" companies in order to destroy the effectiveness of the whole trade union movement.

Meanwhile, in a statement yesterday, Mr Dimbleby said there would be "a pause" before he sought to take contempt of court action over the union's refusal to withdraw the strike instruction.

Such action could lead to fines and eventually sequestration of the unions funds.

Mr Dimbleby said he was "determined the injunction we won will be observed".

On Friday the union's executive meets in London and will discuss the statement and the possibility of appealing directly to the House of Lords.

Mr Dimbleby is expected to meet Mr Kenneth Ashton, NUJ general secretary, next Monday.

**Picket fined**

A lecturer was fined yesterday for an offence in connection with the picketing of the Messenger group in Cheshire (our Liverpool Correspondent writes).

Bruce Spencer, aged 37, of Bridge Avenue, Ormskirk, Lancashire, was arrested on Tuesday last week for obstructing the road outside the Warrington print works.

Warrington magistrates were told yesterday he threw himself in front of a van leaving the premises and then sat down in the road. He was fined £25 with £25 costs.

A Sogart '82 union worker, William Mottershead, was bailed to appear at a date to be fixed, Mr Mottershead, aged 30, of Holcombe Avenue, Bury, was remanded in his absence accused of causing an obstruction.

A further 21 men, all arrested on the picket line, were remanded on bail.

Law report, page 11



Mr David Crouch, Conservative MP for Canterbury, and one of the organizers of the annual art exhibition by MPs, with Sir William Rees-Mogg, Chairman of the Arts Council, at the opening ceremony in the Upper Waiting Hall at the House of Commons yesterday. (Photograph: Brian Harris).

# Audience boost for Festival Hall

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

Concert audiences at the Festival Hall have risen for the first time in five years, which may mean a cut in the GLC's £4m subsidy.

About 459,000 people attended concerts at the hall between April and November, an increase of 30,000 over the same period last year, according to a report to be presented to the council's arts and recreation committee today. But audience levels are still well below those of two years ago.

A GLC survey suggests that the existing audience consists mainly of a "slowly declining number of middle-aged, upper class people making many visits a year".

Today's meeting is expected to back a £233,000 advertising campaign to attract more people, Mr Tony Banks, the committee chairman, said: "The dramatic rise in audiences at the Festival Hall marks the first upturn in its fortunes for five years."

"It means not only more people enjoying the best in music, but also the future promise of reducing the current GLC subsidy of around £4m a year."

South Bank Concert Halls		
Admissions GLC subsidy April-Nov		
1981	512,999	£3.9m
1982	429,070	£3.8m
1983	459,074	£4.3m

# Death crash driver 'may have been adjusting radio'

From Our Correspondent, Cullompton

The driver of a coach which crashed on the M5 killing a teacher and seriously injuring 20 school-children may have been adjusting his radio when the accident happened, a court was told yesterday.

The 57-seat coach crashed into the back of a lorry parked on the hard shoulder of the motorway at Cullompton, Devon, it was alleged at a special magistrates' court in Cullompton.

A teacher, Mrs Dalcia Moss, aged 28, died in the crash. Twenty children aged 13 and 14 were seriously injured and 20 other children and three adults were less badly hurt.

The coach driver, Allan Johnson, aged 34 of Nelson Street Barrow in Furness, Cumbria, denied driving without due care and attention. He was on the final leg of an overnight trip from the Lake School in Windermere when the crash happened six months ago.

He was driving the party to Plymouth to join the ferry for a school trip to France.

Mr Martin Adams, for the prosecution, said that Johnson's eyes may have been off the road as he adjusted his radio. Mr Adams said that forensic tests showed the coach had been travelling at up to 78 mph.

Johnson conceded to police that he was going above the legal speed limit.

The case was adjourned until today.

# 'Neglected' horses had to be shot

From Craig Seton, Minehead

Six horses left in "a beautiful condition" in the care of three men while their owner was away were so badly neglected that two of them had to be shot, it was alleged at Minehead Magistrates' Court in Somerset, yesterday.

The court was told that Mr Roland Ford, a partner in a firm of auctioneers and chairman of the Quantock Stagbush, was appointed land agent and was in overall charge when Mrs Barbara Henson went to New Zealand for six months.

Mr Ford, of Sampford Brett, near Minehead; Mr Nelson Burden, a farm manager; and Mr Thomas Stark, a farm worker, all denied causing unnecessary suffering to animals.

Mr Michael Lloyd-Davies, Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, said that Mrs Henson, of Crowcombe, near Taunton, returned from New Zealand to find that one of her horses had been shot and five others were in an "appalling" state.

Mr Lloyd-Davies said they had been examined a month earlier and a veterinary surgeon had found a stallion lying in an emaciated condition with little food in the vicinity. "It was clear that it was suffering from starvation. It was in such a bad state that the vet returned later that day and shot it".

The case continues on January 3.

# Adamson sued by solicitor

Mr Peter Adamson, who was dismissed as a *Coronation Street* actor, is being sued for £48,000 by Mr Colin Nuttall, the solicitor who helped to clear him of indecency charges. Mr Nuttall has issued a writ for the recovery of legal fees he says he is owed by Mr Adamson.

The case will be heard today, the day that Mr Adamson's screen character, Len Fairclough is killed off in a motorway crash in the Granada television serial.

Mr Gerald Taylor, Bury District Registrar, is expected to agree to an application from Mr Adamson's London solicitors, whom he employed after dismissing Mr Nuttall, for the account to be subject to a taxation, a private line-by-line examination of the fees.

Mr Nuttall said yesterday that the £48,000 was made up of £35,000 of his own fees and £13,000 which he had still to pay towards the cost of Mr George Carman, a barrister, and Mr John Dowse, a junior barrister.

"I have had so much aggravation from this case that I wish I had never taken it on in the first place", Mr Nuttall said. He felt his £50-an-hour fee for 700 hours was not extraordinary for such a case.

"There is a lot of responsibility when dealing with a major trial like this."

Mr Adamson, aged 53, is earning a reported £1,000 a week as Inspector Hubbard in Agatha Christie's *Dial M for Murder* at Vaudeville Theatre in London.

# Car that killed five had defective brakes

A wealthy farmer whose Bentley ploughed into a queue of traffic, killing a family of five, knew that his car's brakes were faulty, Newcastle upon Tyne Crown Court was told.

Thomas Dale, aged 63, of Scoughall Farm, North Berwick, had driven at speeds of 70 mph, overtaking dangerously, and had ignored traffic lights before the crash, the court was told.

It was alleged that Dale, who suffers from Parkinson's Disease, had driven into the family's Citroën 2CV rather than swerve off the road.

Sianne Adamson aged 7, her sister Sasha, aged 5, Stefan Gosbee, aged 13 months and their mother Fiona Campbell, aged 24, all died immediately. Miss Campbell's fiancé, Stephen Gosbee, aged 24, died later in hospital.

The family of Cumbray Park, Glenrothes, Fife, were travelling to Mr Gosbee's parents' home in Essex when the crash happened at temporary traffic lights near Belford.

Their car was last in the queue when Dale's 30-year-old Bentley ran into it after overtaking a lorry. The Citroën was so badly crushed that the rear seat was imbedded in the windscreen.

Dale admitted causing the deaths by reckless driving and was given a six-month suspended jail sentence, fined £2,000 and banned from driving for life.

Mr John Milford, for the prosecution, said: "He was driving far too fast when he well knew he had defective brakes, and against a background of a disease which slowed him down."

# Cruel Kissinger cartoon 'not anti-semitic'

A deliberately cruel attack on Dr Henry Kissinger in a cartoon strip in *The Guardian* was intended to lampoon him for his policies and not because he was Jewish, the Press Council says today in rejecting a complaint that the cartoon was offensive and anti-semitic.

Mr David Myers, of Westminster, Kent, had equated the cartoon with Nazi propaganda and said he was stunned that such a "mindless and offensive" portrayal was endorsed by *The Guardian*.

In the strip cartoon *IF...* Dr Kissinger was caricatured as a turkey with an exaggerated nose. Mr Myers wrote to the editor: "The unforgivable hurt you have perpetrated, the blind and callous injustice you have inflicted and your chilling and wicked disregard for the feelings of others can only bring scorn and contempt upon your newspaper".

Mr Michael McNay, *The Guardian's* Assistant Editor Design/Graphics, wrote to Mr Myers saying "Dr Kissinger is satirized for his involvement in the bombings of North Vietnam and Cambodia, and for his destabilization of such countries as Chile. These seem to us legitimate targets for a cartoonist. Anti-semitism is not permissible and we would not tolerate it."

After Mr Myers had complained, Mr K. G. Dodd, the executive editor, wrote that he was appalled that Mr Myers appeared to be saying that while it was acceptable to lampoon a non-Jewish politician, it was not acceptable to lampoon a Jewish politician to be lampooned for whatever reason.

1966

1970

1974

1979

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## Nato likely to reject US request for higher arms technology spending

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

America's call for more spending on military technology is likely to fall on deaf ears when the Nato foreign ministers meet in Brussels tomorrow and Friday.

Even Britain has indicated that it cannot continue increasing its defence budget annually after 1985-86, and most of the other members are of the alliance are resigned to making do with what resources they have during the lean years expected in the late 1980s.

But Britain and other leading Western powers also foresee a need to restrain some of the smaller less committed member states from being tempted towards Soviet offers of a nuclear weapons freeze.

This assembly has assumed special significance, coming as it does just after the breakdown of the European missile talks in Geneva, a new crisis in Greek-Turkish relations, speculation about President Andropov's health, and fresh US concern over burden-sharing among European members of the alliance.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, will be among those arguing against the expectation of any "easy pickings" in arms control in the foreseeable future. The British view is that the West should, however, seek to reopen channels of communication with Moscow, without necessarily returning to the kind of détente of the 1970s.

The foreign office hopes to restore the visit to Britain by a deputy Soviet foreign minister which was cancelled after the Korean airliner was shot down three months ago. Mrs Thatcher has already announced her intention to visit Hungary in the new year.

The foreign ministers of Britain, the United States, France and Italy, the four countries which have contributed peacekeeping forces to Lebanon are expected to meet "in the margins" of the Brussels conference. A similar gathering is expected of those countries involved in trying to secure a settlement of the Namibia issue.

Nato ministers are also likely to arrange another informal get-together in the near future - similar to that held earlier this year in Quebec. The West Germans have suggested such meetings on a regular basis.

● **BRUSSELS:** A £2,000m agreement between Washington and Bonn to provide missiles for the air defence of West Germany was signed yesterday (Rodney Cowton writes).

Under the agreement 36 fire units for the Patriot high altitude air defence missile system will be deployed as well as many Roland Franco-German surface-to-air missile systems.

The agreement, which will run from 1985 to 1997, was signed in Brussels by Mr Caspar Weinberger, the US Defence Secretary, and Herr Manfred Wörner, his German counterpart.

Mr Weinberger said that when the weapons were fully deployed they would constitute a change by Nato from nuclear to conventional air defence. There would then be no Nato nuclear air defence.

● **GENEVA:** The current round of strategic arms reduction talks (Start) between the United States and the Soviet Union will end tomorrow, the seventh meeting since negotiations began on June 29 last year (Alan McGregor writes).

The meeting yesterday at the

US disarmament delegation building lasted one hour and five minutes and was followed by a working lunch hosted by the Russians.

The round, which has gone the normal two-month course, would normally be followed by a process of similar duration. But Moscow reports indicate that the Soviet side intends to break off the talks indefinitely, as has already happened with the parallel INF negotiations on intermediate range nuclear systems in Europe.

While the chief Soviet delegate, Mr Viktor Karpov, has repeatedly maintained that a Start agreement has been precluded by US intractability, American officials say the Russians have several times tried to introduce the issue of cruise and Pershing 2 missiles.

The American attitude has been that these were the subject of the separate INF discussions and had no place in Start.

● **BELGRADE:** Warsaw Pact defence ministers meeting in Sofia were expected yesterday to discuss their response to the signing of the new US medium-range nuclear missiles in Western Europe.

The ministers from the seven communist military alliance countries began their first joint meeting on Monday since the new missiles began arriving, with Romania alone among them calling for a freeze on all new missiles, including Soviet ones, in Europe.

● **STOCKHOLM:** Mr Olof Palme, Sweden's Prime Minister, yesterday denied that he had tried to reach a secret deal with the Soviet Union to stop Russian submarine incursions into Swedish waters (Christopher Mosey writes).



In the driving seat: Mr Caspar Weinberger, US Defence Secretary, puts a Bradley troop carrier through its paces in the Hohenfels training area, Bavaria. He was visiting US Army installations.

## Food for thought on nuclear survival

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

Britons who are preparing to watch *The Day After* this weekend may derive some comfort from the knowledge that crops and even farm livestock are more likely to survive a nuclear holocaust than human beings. So there should be plenty to eat for the fortunate few not killed by the blast or by radiation.

This is the conclusion of a report prepared by an American Government agency which has been studying the possible effects that a nuclear attack would have on agriculture. The report, prepared by the Federal

Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) states blandly that "sufficient production seems assured to meet survivor needs".

The fact that Washington should have authorized such a study has unleashed a storm of criticism.

Representative Thomas Harkin (Democrat, Iowa), who brought the report to public attention, described it as "shocking and disgraceful". He added: "The misdirected perceptions of those involved ought to shock us all. With information like this, it is no wonder that there are those in our Government who believe that we can win a nuclear war".

The report states that the impact of a full-scale nuclear attack on food production would depend on its timing. A spring attack would hurt planting; a June strike would affect crop yields more than one in August.

The report avoids two key considerations. These are: how would farmers manage to grow crops in the "dead dirt" that would be left after an attack? And what effect would nuclear war have on the weather?

## Le Monde in more financial trouble

From Diana Geddes, Paris

*Le Monde* is again facing serious financial difficulties. Less than six months after its decision to lay off 50 of its 1,300 staff, it has announced that it must shed another 100 jobs to survive.

The paper's losses last year totalled 17.8m francs (£1.5m). Advertising revenue is sharply down, as it is for all French national newspapers, and its circulation this year has fallen by 50,000 to a total of 350,000, down 18 per cent from its peak three years ago.

About 40 per cent of *Le Monde's* stock is owned by an association of the paper's 184 editorial staff. The latest cuts will affect all categories, including the journalists, who went on strike for two days last June in protest against earlier reductions.

*Le Monde* is not alone in facing financial troubles. Nearly all the 11 surviving national dailies (down from 28 immediately after the war) have been hit by the economic crisis and by increasing competition from radio and television news. National daily sales have fallen by more than a quarter in the last decade. The provincial press has been much less affected.

The Government is worried about the state of the national press and, hot on the heels of its highly controversial Bill to restrict large press groups, is planning to introduce further legislation to introduce the existing scheme of state assistance for the press, which totals more than 5 billion francs (£400m) a year in direct and indirect aid.

It is particularly concerned about the provision which grants tax rebates to newspapers reinvesting their profits, as it provides no benefit for those that most need help - the loss-makers.

The "anti-trust" press Bill is expected to get a stormy reception when it goes before Parliament for a first reading on December 15. M. Georges Folloud, Minister for Press and Communications, made it clear yesterday, however, that the Government has not closed its mind to possible changes.

Under the Bill's present provisions no one man or group will be permitted to own both a national and a provincial daily; the combined sales of a group's national or provincial daily sales may not exceed 15 per cent of the total sales in that same category; and no group may own more than three national newspapers, all of which may be dailies.

M. Robert Hersant, right-wing owner of the largest newspaper group in France, has three national newspapers whose sales amount to nearly 40 per cent of total national daily sales, as well as 14 provincial papers and a string of weekly papers and magazines.

The opposition parties, who maintain that the Bill represents an outrageous attack on the liberty of the press, have put down a censure motion against the Government, which is due to be debated the day before the Bill's first reading.

## Officers on Secrets Act charges in India

Delhi (reuter) - Three senior retired military officers and a civilian have been arrested under the official Secrets Act. A newspaper report said one of the former officers had given American diplomats secret details of India's arms purchases from the Soviet Union.

An official statement said an investigation had been launched after an Air Force officer reported being offered a reward for giving classified information. It did not mention the United States or diplomats.

## General flees from Kabul

Peshawar (AFP) - General Muhammad Rahim, commander of the Seventh Division of the Afghan Army in Kabul, has fled to Pakistan. It was reported here.

He was reported to have said the Afghan army now numbered 35,000 against 100,000 when the Soviet army entered Afghanistan four years ago. Afghan officers were treated "in a humiliating fashion" by their Soviet counterparts.

## Hijack appeal

Seoul (reuter) - The Seoul High Court began hearings appeals on jail sentences of up to six years imposed on five Chinese men and a woman who hijacked a Chinese airliner to South Korea in May. They claimed they were political refugees and demanded asylum in Taiwan.

## Five accused

Tehran (reuter) - The first trial of members of the banned Iranian Communist Party began yesterday with five people accused of spying and aiming to overthrow the Islamic Republic appearing in a revolutionary court.

## Briton drowned

Durban (AP) - Ian Roger Mott, aged 24, from Calne, Wiltshire, was drowned after being swept into the sea while swimming near here. He had been employed since September at a children's camp near Johannesburg.

## Casino arrests

San Remo (AP) - Italian police arrested three city officials yesterday, bringing to nine the number of San Remo officials seized in a crackdown on alleged Mafia activities in Italian casinos.

## Finnish gift

Tokyo - The United Nations University, established in 1973 as a centre for international research with headquarters in Tokyo, has accepted an offer from Finland worth \$30m (about £20m) to set up a World Institute for Development Economics Research in Helsinki.

## Chile protest

Santiago (reuter) - Five demonstrators and four police were injured and five protesters arrested in clashes over low pay on Chilean Government jobs schemes. Thousands of workers took part in the protest outside La Granja town hall, south Santiago.

## Hospital trial

Belgrade (AFP) - Two Armenians went on trial yesterday accused of killing the Turkish Ambassador to Yugoslavia in March. The trial is being held in the prison hospital because one of the accused was paralysed in the legs when a policeman shot him after the attack.

## Army gives up power in Turkey

From Rasil Gardlik, Ankara

Marking the end of more than three years of military rule, President Kenan Evren urged the Turks yesterday to "heed the lessons of the past while taking courageous and resolute steps into the future in unity".

In a televised speech on the occasion of the formal dissolution of the National Security Council which has ruled the country since the Army coup in September 1980, President Evren noted that by taking power the armed forces "had once more spoiled external and internal plots for the dismemberment of the country".

He said the National Security Council, in which he had presided over the commanders of the armed services, had fulfilled all its promises "despite the unceasing efforts of its enemies to undermine its work and pressures from abroad bordering on interference with the country's domestic affairs".

## Twin blow for Lévesque

From John Best, Ottawa

The ruling separatist party in Quebec has lost another two by-elections. The Parti Québécois has now suffered 18 successive by-election defeats since winning power seven years ago.

The Liberals, led by Mr Robert Bourassa, took Jonquière, and easily managed to hold on to Mégantic Compton in Monday's voting. Both the winning candidates were women.

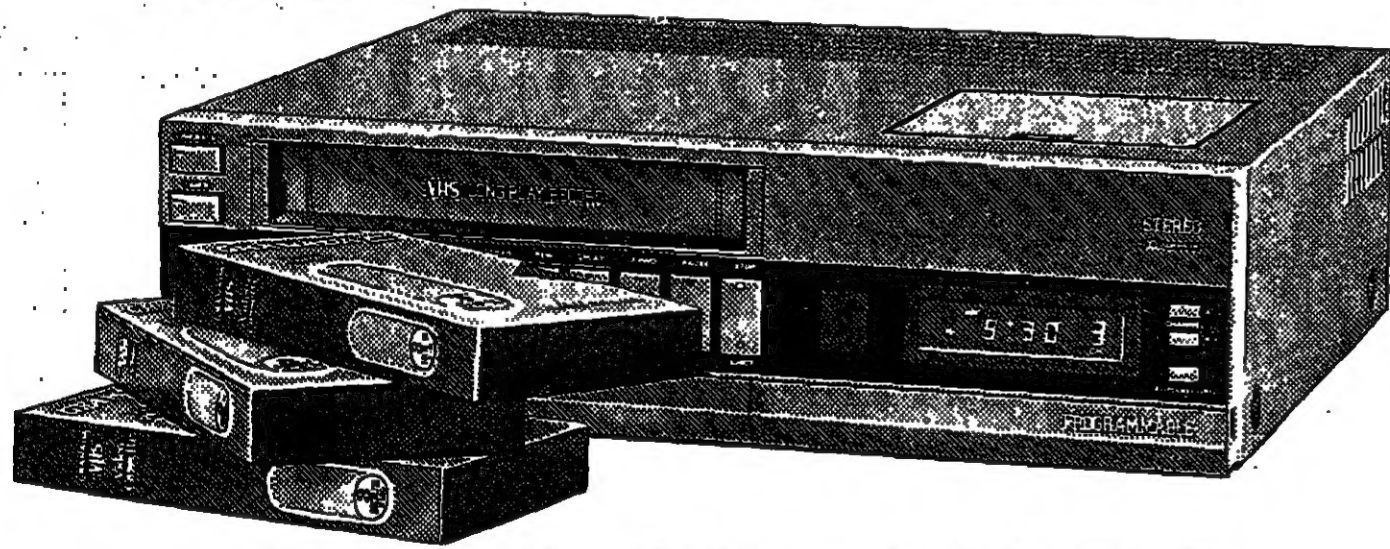
The by-elections were widely

considered to be a test of the popularity of an economic recovery programme recently announced by Mr René Lévesque, the Quebec Premier.

The Parti Québécois now has 72 seats in the 122-seat provincial legislature; the Liberals 47, Independents 2, and there is one vacancy.

The loss of Jonquière, located in the Saguenay River country, was particularly bitter for Mr Lévesque as it had long been a stronghold for his party.

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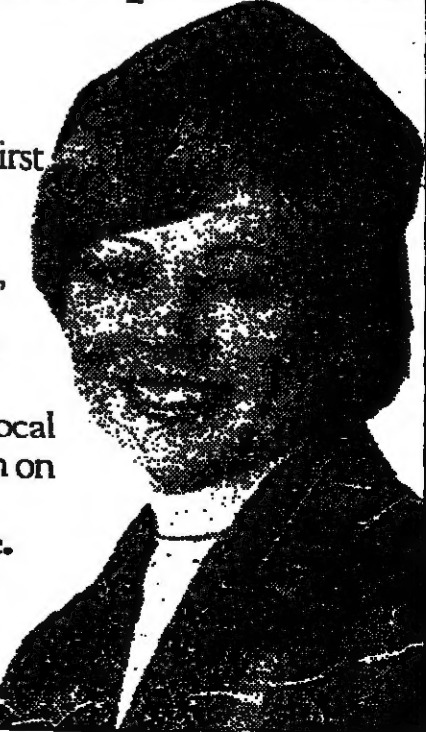
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The Lebanon crisis: Low-key response in Damascus; European worries grow

# Syria wants to cool tension despite shooting down drones

From Robert Fisk, Damascus

Despite shooting down two Israeli reconnaissance aircraft yesterday, the Syrians appear to want to cool tensions in the propaganda victory which they feel they scored on Sunday when their troops destroyed two American naval jets during US air raids on Syrian positions in Lebanon.

Syrian leaders, who have decided that the American pilot held captive in Damascus should not be put on public display or subjected to a press conference, have asked Western ambassadors here to urge restraint upon Washington lest the military crisis gets out of control.

More than two weeks ago, it transpired, Syria sent messages to the Americans, warning them that reconnaissance flights over the Syrian occupied Bekaa Valley in Lebanon would be intercepted.

The Syrians told a diplomat at one neutral embassy that American jets would not be permitted to fly over Syrian positions, but that Syrian jets would be permitted by the Americans to make reconnaissance flights over the US Sixth Fleet steaming off the Lebanese coast.

American diplomats in Damascus, who are still allowed to move freely around the city, were yesterday making further approaches through the

International Red Cross to Syria for the release of Lieutenant Robert Goodman, the pilot captured after he baled out of his jet on Sunday.

Lieutenant Goodman, it has been disclosed in Damascus, put up quite a struggle after landing in the Bekaa Valley, fighting off Syrian captors with his fists until forced to the ground and overwhelmed by seven soldiers who grabbed his legs and arms to stop further resistance.

The American Embassy has also been seeking the remains of Lieutenant Goodman's navigator, who died after losing a leg. But the Syrians have so far refused to hand over his body.

The Syrians are only too happy to channel their appeals to Washington through the diplomatic corps in Damascus since they know that several Western ambassadors were appalled by the political implications of Sunday's American air strike.



Aftermath: Israeli experts examining the wreckage of a bus blown up by a bomb in Jerusalem with the loss of four lives.

When Syrian anti-aircraft missiles shot down the two Israeli drones yesterday, the news was immediately broadcast by the official Syrian news agency Sana, which claimed it to be another example of Syria's preparedness in the face of "Israeli-American aggression."

There was, however, a disturbing element to yesterday's incident. One of the planes was shot down near Anjar in Lebanon, but the other was destroyed at Deir el Zor in the foothills of the Golan Heights.

This is believed to be the first time that an Israeli drone has been reported over Syria's southern front - it is certainly the first time one has been shot down there - and it suggests a

new interest by Israel in Syrian strength behind the UN ceasefire lines which lie due south-east of Damascus.

The Syrians have a habit of believing their own propaganda but they are clearly concerned that the Americans are planning some attack on them, perhaps in coordination with Israel. This may well account for the speed with which they have reportedly agreed to the evacuation from the Lebanese port of Tripoli of Mr Yassir Arafat and his PLO guerrillas.

Under the terms of a document drawn up by Mr Rashid Krali, the pro-Syrian former Lebanese Prime Minister, several thousands of Mr Arafat's men will leave Tripoli on board six Greek ships paid

## Slander writs fly over press leak in Lambsdorff case

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

A new twist was added to the Lambsdorff affair yesterday, when the Cologne public prosecutor sued the acting secretary of the Bavarian-based Christian Social Union (CSU) for slander after his criticisms of the way the case against the Minister of Economics was leaked to the press.

The prosecutor's office has already announced that it intends to bring charges of defamation against Herr Gerold Tandler for his remarks at the weekend that the prosecution case against Otto Graf Lambsdorff was a "justice scandal of the first order," and for comparing the "character assassination" of the count with the terrorist murders of Jürgen Ponto and Hanns-Martin Schleyer in 1977.

Frau Inge Donnepp, the Social Democratic Minister of Justice of North Rhine-Westphalia, confirmed yesterday that she was also taking out a civil suit against Herr Tandler, who had called for an inquiry into her responsibility for the

## Five killed in school bus crash

From AP - Vitry-le-Francois, France

(AP) - Five French schoolchildren were killed, and 10 people injured, five of them seriously, when a school bus crashed off the icy Paris-Strasbourg road in eastern France yesterday.

The bus was carrying 49 children aged 13 to 15 and four teachers from a school in Joinville to Paris. It crashed into a field, rolling on its roof, near Vitry-le-Francois, about 110 miles east of Paris.

## Shuttle clank

Houston (AFP) - The flight of the Columbia space shuttle

carrying the European space lab was officially prolonged for an extra day despite a bizarre but apparently innocuous clanking heard on board. It will touch down at the Southern California Air Base tomorrow morning.

## Wider victory

Caracas (AP) - Señor Jaime

Lusinchi, who won a landslide presidential victory also earned a comfortable majority in the Venezuelan Congress. Of 42 senators elected on Sunday, Señor Lusinchi's party won at least 30 seats, and in the House of Representatives he won more than 100 of the approximately 200 seats.

## Nuns ejected

Tequigalpa (Reuter) -

Honduras police in helicopters and cars surrounded an Air Florida plane which landed with 68 American nuns and other churchwomen on board and forced it to fly back to the United States. The women were to take part in "peace vigils" on the border with Nicaragua.

## Reelection risks for Reagan

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

There is growing concern in the White House about the impact that America's expanding role in the Lebanese conflict could have on President Reagan's reelection prospects next year - assuming he seeks a second term.

Although public reaction to Sunday's air strike by American jets against Syrian positions has been relatively mild, the President's advisers are keenly aware there could be "unpleasant surprises" for the US in Lebanon during the next few months.

The advisers hope the show of force by the US may finally make Syria seriously consider withdrawing its troops. But they also recognize that the more active role on which the Reagan Administration has embarked contains many risks and could, as in Vietnam, inexorably produce a steadily-expanding US military commitment in the region.

One reason why the growing US role has not produced any significant outcry so far is that Congress is in recess. However, it seems certain to press for a re-examination of the War Powers Act as soon as it reconvenes at the end of next month.

Two months ago Congress approved a compromise which allowed deployment of US forces with the multinational peace-keeping force in Lebanon for 18 months. The legislation specified that there should be no substantial expansion in the number or role of US forces.

It was largely to keep within the terms of the compromise that Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, said Sunday's raid was a strictly defensive measure.

Yesterday, in an attempt to emphasize US commitment to the search for a diplomatic solution, Mr Donald Rumsfeld, the President's special adviser, left for the Middle East to explore the possibility of more negotiations on troop withdrawals.



Mr Rumsfeld: Looking for a diplomatic solution.

## Luce cuts short his Gulf visit and Italy rethinks role

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

Mr Richard Luce, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, cut short his visit to the Gulf and rushed back to London last night because of the situation in Lebanon.

It has been decided that he should brief Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, on his talks in Damascus at the weekend before Sir Geoffrey - just back from the EEC summit in Athens - leaves again for the Nato meeting in Brussels tomorrow and on Friday.



Mr Luce: Consultation in Damascus.

Mr Luce, who was touring a number of Arab countries for the first time since taking over the Foreign Office's Middle East portfolio in June, will also field Foreign Office questions in the Commons today.

He visited Kuwait after leaving Syria, but he is having to curtail his stay in Bahrain and to cancel altogether his planned visit to Qatar as a result of the sudden change of plan.

● ATHENS: Mrs Thatcher emphasized here yesterday that increasing violence in Lebanon was making it more and more difficult for attempts at reconciliation to succeed (Ian Murray writes).

While in no way criticizing the United States for acting in self-defence, the Prime Minister emphasized the need to stop the escalation in the fighting if there was to be any hope of a settlement.

● BRUSSELS: The foreign ministers of Britain, the United States, France and Italy are expected to meet over breakfast in Brussels tomorrow to discuss the situation in Lebanon and the position of the multinational peace-keeping force (Rodney Cowton writes).

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## Argentine junta dissolves itself

From Douglas Tweedale, Buenos Aires

The three-man junta which headed Argentina's military government has ordered its own dissolution, putting an end to more than seven years of unpopular military government and paving the way for an elected civilian Government due to take office on Saturday.

The newly elected Congress is due to proclaim Señor Raul Alfonsín, the winner of elections on October 30, as the country's next President today.

The junta has also annulled all the statutes and by-laws enacted by the military Government which seized power in March 1976, thus eliminating the last formal vestiges of military power.

The junta was the last of four which have held power since 1976, including the one over which General Galtieri presided, which ordered Argentina's disastrous occupation of the Falklands. That defeat and growing resistance to the Government's repressive social and economic policies made it impossible for the military to

retain power, and shortly after the war it announced elections.

● MADRID: Señora Isabel Perón, widow of the former Argentine dictator, is temporarily to abandon her exile in Spain and visit Buenos Aires to coincide with the inauguration of Señor Alfonsín. Peronist sources indicated here (Richard Wigg writes).

She was due to leave last night and will be staying in Argentina for about 10 days. She will be accompanied by a Spanish woman friend and her chief bodyguard, a Croatian exile. She has been living in Spain since June, 1981.

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## The Athens summit: Britain resists pressure on the budget and puts the ball in MEPs' court

# EEC faces cash crisis after total failure to agree on anything

From Ian Murray, Athens

With the total failure of the Athens summit to agree on anything, the Community has to prepare for the fact that it will run out of money between July and September of next year.

If nothing can be agreed before then on how to reduce farm spending - and the signs are not good - then only a miraculous conjunction of bad weather, a collapsing dollar and a very bad world harvest could eke out the community budget until the end of the year.

But that is the best possible scenario. It assumes that the European Parliament does not carry out its threat next week to freeze the EEC budget for next year precisely because the Athens summit failed to relaunch the "community of the second generation", which MEPs want.

Parliament meets to vote on this on Thursday of next week. Its members have been put under intense pressure in recent days by government and political parties in their own countries to make sure the budget does get passed.

But in this matter Parliament tends to have a will of its own, and with the direct elections to Europe looming next June, it might well decide

that the time has come to make an impression.

It would not be a very deep impression. If it froze the budget then, member states would pay and receive money in monthly instalments of the 1983 total. This would be only about £100m a month less than if Parliament did not block the budget.

On these grounds MEPs might decide instead not to freeze the whole budget, but simply to block the £457m rebate which Britain was promised during the Stuttgart European summit in June. There is no question at this stage, however, of Britain withholding its payments to the Community, if that money is not paid over.

Britain wants and expects to receive the cash before the end of its financial year on March 31. Providing Parliament releases it before then, there would be no problem. Even after that Mrs Margaret Thatcher is likely to press for a new deal with higher compensation rather than stop the money. If she blocked payments it would merely accelerate the financial crisis Britain confidently expects will happen anyway, and the tactic would not make a difficult negotiating position any easier.

Parliament's attitude is therefore not causing anything

like as much concern as the fact that the Community just cannot summon up the ability to reach decisions. As long as Mrs Thatcher insists on saving money on farm spending and other countries insist on stopping her, the blockage is total.

In its proposals last June the Commission put forward a package of measures which would have saved about £1,560m. Britain thought this was not really enough, but the sum total of the savings proposed at the Athens summit came to scarcely £600m.

In preparing its budget for next year, the Commission assumed that its package of savings proposals - which included the idea of a £500m tax on oils and fats - would actually be agreed at Athens. That means that the hopelessly stretched 1984 budget is bound to be short of £1,560m on present estimates.

If farm spending goes on rising at anything like the 30 per cent rate it did this year, then these estimates will begin to look wildly optimistic. Early reports of grain planting in the United States add to the gloom. These show that American farmers are planting our far more land this year than last, which will inevitably add to the world glut and push up the already high cost of export restitutions to EEC farmers.

All these factors will start to come to a head in late summer. It is then that Britain expects the Community will be on the brink of the crisis brought about by failure at Athens. At that point the legally due payments to farmers will exceed the amount of money coming into the Community coffers. It will be possible to go on paying them some, but not all, of what they are supposed to receive.

Two other factors will add to this pressure. One is the fact that the Commission has already "mortgaged" part of next year's budget in withholding some 1983 payments in order to eke out this year's budget. That means that this money will have to be found next month, depriving 1984 of another £250m.

The second factor is that annual price fixing has yet to add its inevitable cost to the package.

Leading article, page 17

## Mrs Thatcher asked to withhold payments

By Patricia Clogh

Britain should be expected to contribute even more to Brussels "at a time when they are plainly not prepared to put their own expenditure house in order... there is no reason why we should continue to be paymaster of Europe".

Dr David Owen, the Social Democrat leader, asked Mrs Thatcher to stand firm. She had a crucial negotiation lever in her ability to block an increase in the VAT-linked dues to the EEC, he told the *Times*. "There is no alternative but to peg away and hope a formula can be found which is acceptable to us. We must take no provocative action - let others do that if they want to."

Mr Robin Cook, the Labour spokesman on European affairs, said it was "preposterous" that



Best foot forward: Mrs Thatcher arriving for the Athens EEC summit's last session.

## Summit runs out of time in Cyprus

From Mario Modiano Athens

The breakdown of the European Community summit has seriously inhibited action on the Cyprus crisis. It left little time for top-level Greek-British consultations and it stopped the Ten from endorsing a condemnation of the Turkish-Cypriot secession.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher and

Mr Andreas Papandreu, the Greek Prime Minister, were too tired and too concerned to discuss in detail Britain's proposal for tripartite consultations of the three guarantors of Cypriot independence: Britain, Greece and Turkey.

They did manage, however,

to snatch a few minutes from their last working dinner for Mrs Thatcher to realize that Mr Papandreu wished to reflect further on the merits of sitting at the same table with Turkey, the only country to have recognized the self-styled Turkish-Cypriot state.

## Troops on alert as Solidarity orders peaceful protests

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

The solidarity underground leadership has called for peaceful demonstrations throughout Poland next week, urging workers to march from their factories to town centres to commemorate those killed in the price protests of 1970 and in the first days of martial law two years ago.

The appeal comes at a time of remarkably intense security preparations - by the police and the Army - ahead of the official increases in food prices due in January.

General Wojciech Jaruzelski, in his capacity as Chief of the National Defence Committee, has ordered a mobilization to check the defence preparedness of the Army. In towns and villages troops have already begun to check transport communications and supply services. Officers have been visiting factories again, for the first time since the lifting of martial law last July.

Meanwhile, policemen are stopping cars within cities and on approach roads, checking engine numbers for stolen vehicles and searching boots. The official explanation is that they are on an anti-crime

search but it is clear that the search is on for underground activists. A communiqué in the press said that "the operation involves an intensive search for criminals and suspected criminals currently in hiding."

Mr Jerzy Urban, the Government spokesman, said yesterday that the military dragnet was prompted by the deteriorating international situation.

The underground leadership, who issued their appeal in the latest issue of the clandestine Warsaw weekly *Tygodnik Mazowiecki*, said the demonstrations should be held on December 16, the day when workers were shot in Gdansk in 1970 and the day, too, when miners were shot in the Wujek colliery in 1981.

"We will honour the memory of the dead with symbols of mourning and we shall show our will to fight by organizing peaceful demonstrations in the whole country. We shall leave our factories together and make marches, demonstrations and gatherings in the town centres. The responsibility for spoiling the peaceful character will be solely that of the authorities."

## Air disaster families win first round

By William Norris

The families of nine members of Swansea Skydiving Club who died in a United States Army helicopter crash at Mannheim, West Germany, in September last year, have won the first stage of their legal battle for compensation.

A federal district court in Philadelphia has ruled that Boeing, the manufacturer of the helicopter, was responsible for the crash and liable for damages. Boeing had denied liability, claiming the machine was built to army specifications.

The helicopter, a twin-rotor Chinook, had been taking part in an air show when a rotor transmission failed. All 46 people on board, including skydivers from France, Britain and West Germany, were killed. Boeing is to appeal and it may be many months before compensation is paid. If the appeal fails, individual damage hearings will be held, in which awards will be unlimited.

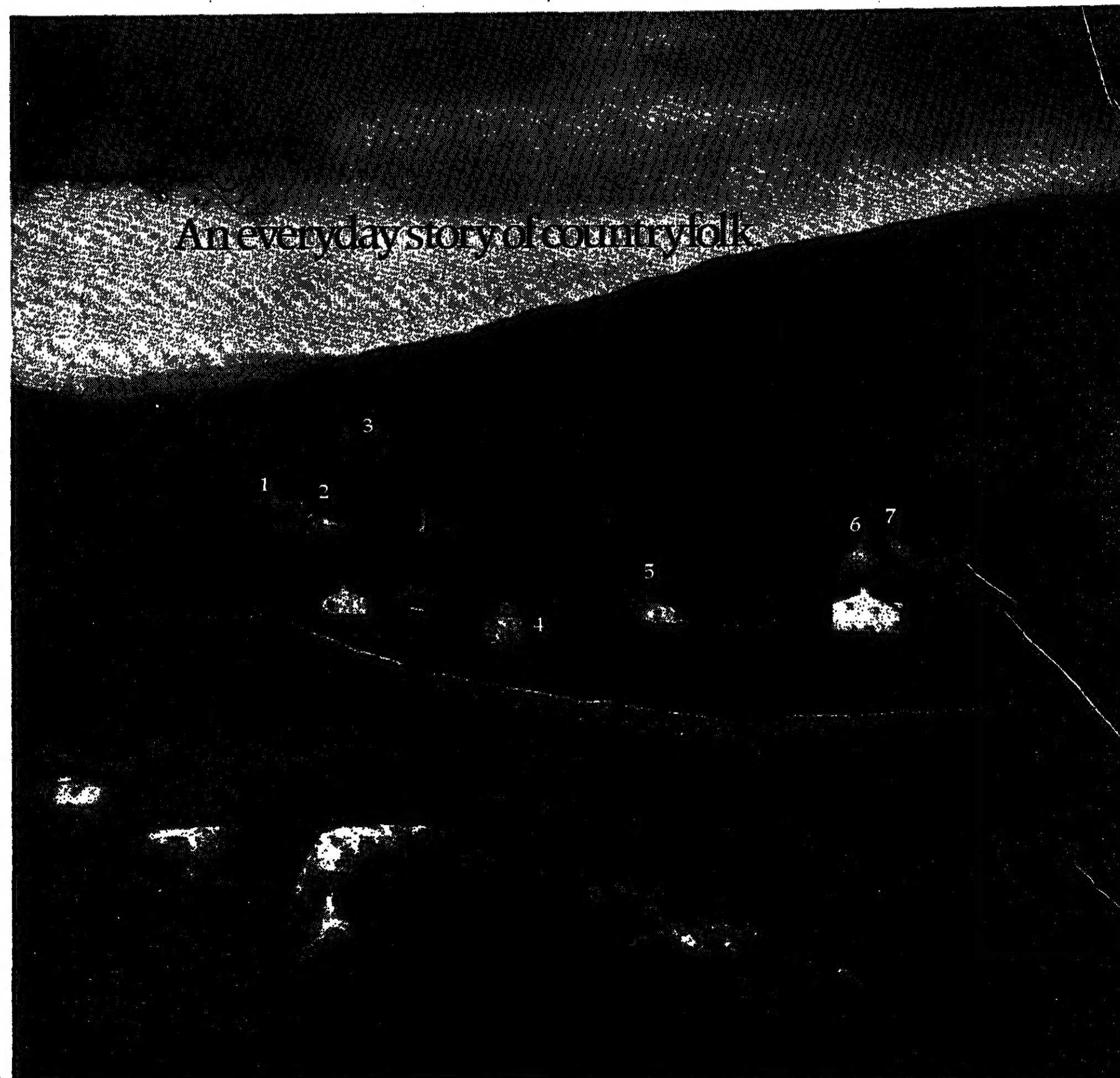
## Walk leads to discovery of ransom

Zeist, Holland (AP) - A walk in the woods by two nature lovers has enabled the authorities to recover the bulk of the ransom paid in the kidnapping of Mr Freddie Heineken, the brewery magnate, police disclosed yesterday.

Police uncovered the money on Monday, buried about a foot deep in a wooded area near this central Dutch city.

The authorities have withheld information on the actual ransom amount for fear that it might set some sort of target in future kidnappings. But Dutch television and newspapers have widely reported that between 30m and 35m guilders (£7m to £8m) was paid on November 28 as the price of freedom for Mr Heineken and his chauffeur. The two were rescued unharmed in a police raid two days later.

Police sent 50 officers to search the woods after the two strollers stumbled across part of the loot, a plastic bag containing 200 £100 bills.



An everyday story of countryfolk

1. Since the village bus service was axed, young Jack Norris has had to leave his home and friends in order to live nearer his job, 12 miles away. It's a shame the way the old place keeps losing so many of its young people.
2. The village bus service was so handy for Mrs. Payne. It meant that whatever she couldn't buy in the village, she could always get in the next town. Now there's no bus, she's got a problem. Not to mention a 3 mile walk. Because in common with 70% of British women, Mrs. Payne does not have a driving licence.
3. Like a lot of young people today, Alan Murphy can't get a job. And now, he doesn't even have the means to go after one, because he's got no bus service either. No bus. No job. No hope. Alan is finding village life more and more frustrating...
4. Mrs. Sarah Smith (68 last birthday) used to rely on the village bus to take her to the doctor's surgery. Now the bus service has gone, she either has to beg a lift or take a six mile hike. It seems that when you live in the country, you have to be fit to be ill.
5. Ted Armitage hasn't been on a bus in years. Hasn't needed to with the car. But he's far from happy about the effect the lack of a bus service is having on the village. Ted runs the local shop - and it's not good for business the way people keep packing up and leaving. And then there's his old ma. She used to rely on the bus a lot. Now she's going to be relying an awful lot more on Ted and his car.
6. It's not little Jane Harding's fault that her new secondary school is 2½ miles away from the village. But it's her problem. Because Jane's parents can't afford to run a car and the bus that took her to school has run its last journey. Now she has to bike it. And that's not much fun in the winter.
7. Tracy Cole is 17 and she's had it with village life. There was never much to do there anyway, but now the bus service has gone, she and her mates feel marooned. Never mind what her parents say, she's off to the bright lights and the big city just as soon as her bags are packed.

These stories represent the kind of problems faced by today's countryfolk. What's to be done to help them? This was one of the topics discussed by a wide range of community interests at a recent Convention in London. We'll be pleased to send you a complimentary copy of the Convention Report in exchange for the coupon.

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## Pretoria special constable given death sentence for murder

From Michael Horvath, Windhoek

A former member of the Koevoet, a special South African counter-insurgency unit, was sentenced to death yesterday in the Windhoek Supreme Court for the murder of an Ovambo civilian in northern Namibia last January.

It is the first time that a member of the unit, whose Afrikaans name means "crowbar" and accurately reflects its reputation for brutality, has been sentenced to death, though many others have been accused of torturing and killing innocent civilians.

The man, Jonas Paulus, aged 23, was sentenced in addition to an effective 21 years in prison on related charges of attempted murder, rape and armed robbery. A colleague, Matheus Paulus, aged 22, who was with him when the crimes were committed, was given an effective prison term of 12 years for attempted murder, rape and armed robbery.

Both men were members of Koevoet when they visited several kraals in the northern Ovambo area which borders Angola "in search of money and girls". Jonas Paulus shot dead a villager who refused to give him money and several days later threw a grenade at police when they tried to arrest him.

During the trial, a psychiatrist said that the man had been turned into "a programmed killer" as a result of indoctrination by both the South Africans and by the Unita movement of Dr Jonas Savimbi, which is fighting a guerrilla war against the Angolan Government.

In his summing up, Mr Justice Strydom dismissed the indoctrination argument as evidence of extenuation, the only grounds on which he could have avoided imposing the death penalty. He said that Jonas Paulus, while a trained killer, had been aware of the difference between a "war situation" and a "social situation".

The judge drew attention to the difficulties the police had in arresting Koevoet members who committed crimes, and to the fact that Koevoet constables are allowed to carry rifles even when off duty.

● **PRETORIA:** Five more black men sentenced to death for murder were hanged on Monday at Pretoria Central Prison, the Justice Ministry said here (AFP reports). The executions bring to ten the number of black men hanged here in less than a week.

## Hawke to reinstate minister in leak case

From Tony Dahood, Melbourne

Mr Mick Young, the former Special Minister for State, who resigned in July after it was revealed that he had leaked details of the Cabinet decision to expel a Russian diplomat, is expected to return to the Labour Ministry in the New Year, Mr Bob Hawke, the Prime Minister, indicated yesterday.

Mr Hawke was speaking in Parliament after a report by a Royal Commission headed by Mr Justice Hope into Australia's security organizations and the relationship between Mr David Combe, a former Labour Party Nationalist Secretary and now a Canberra lobbyist, and Mr Valeriy Ivanov, a First Secretary at the Soviet Embassy in Canberra. Mr Ivanov was expelled in May accused of being a KGB agent. Later it was disclosed that he had cultivated a relationship with Mr Combe.

The Royal Commission found that Mr Young acted improperly and without authorization when he disclosed the expulsion decision to Mr Eric Walsh, a Canberra lobbyist. There was no evidence that national security was damaged although it could have been.

Mr Hawke said that Mr Young would be given the opportunity of returning to the Government by the time Parliament resumed in February. The Prime Minister's statement brought a storm of protest from the opposition.



Love song: Mick Jagger serenades his girl friend Jerrilee Hall under a palm tree in St Peter, Barbados. There are wedding rumours.

## Drought ends but thousands die

### Nation stricken by hunger

#### MOZAMBIQUE Part 3

In his concluding article on Mozambique Stephen Taylor reports the failure of the Frelimo Government's agricultural policy and its controversial resettlement programme.

The rains which have fallen over much of Mozambique in the past two months appeared to signal the end of its worst known drought. But they came too late for thousands of peasants dying because emergency aid is not reaching them in time.

Relief workers who have visited settlements at which drought victims have gathered are comparing the level of malnutrition to that in Biafra and Ethiopia.

About 600,000 people are critically affected in the provinces of Gaza, Inhambane, Manica and Sofala are also seriously affected. Everywhere in Mozambique people are hungry.

The areas of worst suffering are those in which rebels of the Mozambique Resistance Movement are most active. The drought's disaster has been directly compounded by the guerrilla war, which until recently has also obscured the extent of the problem.

Although the Frelimo Government claims that the main highway running north from Maputo to Beira has been rendered safe for traffic, about 80 per cent of food aid is being brought from the sea to the refugee settlements which have sprung up within reach of the 1,900 mile coastline. The guerrillas, meanwhile, are making distribution impossible in much of the interior.

80,000 tonnes in 1975 to an estimated 3,000 tonnes this year.

The about-turn on policy came at the Frelimo party congress earlier this year when, according to Senator Manuel Azeiteiro da Silva, the Minister of Internal Trade, it was recognized that producers should be given a financial incentive. Similarly, the cooperative farm system is starting to give way to a system based around family agriculture.

The capacity to admit error, a quality of the Frelimo leadership which is widely admired, does not, however, extend to perhaps the most controversial of recent internal policy innovations, the so-called "Operation Production".

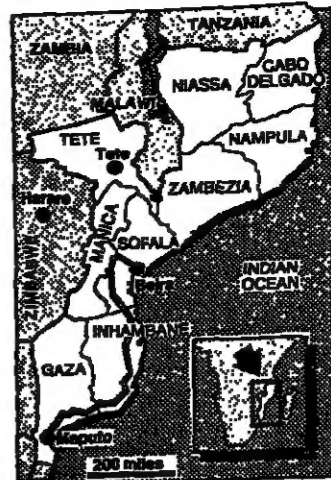
According to informed sources, more than 30,000 urban dwellers have been moved - in the main forcibly - from Maputo and other cities on the grounds that they are unemployed and parasites.

The majority have been sent to the northern provinces of Niassa and Cabo Delgado, where the guerrillas are least active and unlikely to disrupt agriculture.

The problem of overcrowding in Mozambique's cities is serious with populations vastly outstripping the ability of a Marxist bureaucracy to provide employment. Those who live on the fringe include prostitutes and black marketeers.

Such prime targets for resettlement were identified by a process which included secret denunciations and led to widespread abuse.

Concluded



to a disastrous decline in production of cashew nuts, which, along with fish, is Mozambique's principal export. A serious blight and an agricultural policy which the Government acknowledges as having been mistaken are also responsible for the decline from

## Islamic powers told of their failures

From Michael Hamlyn, Dhaka

Islamic foreign ministers were treated to a devastatingly frank analysis of the failures of the Islamic movement when they met for the ceremonial inauguration of their conference here yesterday.

Lieutenant-General Ershad, the chief martial law administrator of Bangladesh, welcoming the delegates, said: "Honesty demands that we face up to our failures and shortcomings".

The general, who faces a good deal of trouble from opposition politicians angry at his terms for restoring democracy to Bangladesh, listed the failures of the Islamic powers.

"How much closer are we today to liberating the occupied territories and the Holy City of Jerusalem?" he asked the delegates from 31 countries and the PLO representatives of Palestine. "How many Muslim lives have been tragically lost in the cities of Beirut and Tripoli?"

He also listed the war between Iran and Iraq, the continued occupation of

Afghanistan, the turmoil in Chad and the denial of the Turkish Cypriot "Rightful claim to a bi-zonal federal state".

He asked what the Islamic world had done to right these wrongs and answered: "We have made imposing speeches and adopted lofty resolutions".

The general, sporting a dark blue pinstriped suit in place of his more usual khaki, said: "Can the Islamic world do no more? The answer, for there is an answer, is painfully visible. Our helplessness and ineffectiveness is the direct result of our internal conflicts and disputes".

He also castigated the slow progress in different areas of joint cooperation - economic, educational and cultural.

The delegates, meeting in the concrete splendour of Bangladesh's National Assembly, built by an American architect to resemble a medieval castle set among ruins, will be expected to discuss all the subjects General Ershad mentioned.

## Indian Ocean nations draft treaty on coasts

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

Legal experts from eight East African countries with coasts on the Indian Ocean met here yesterday to draw up a draft treaty to protect their coastal areas from marine pollution and to preserve marine life.

Those representing, from Somalia in the north to Mozambique and Madagascar in the south, have already agreed to cooperate in a treaty to protect the waters of the western section of the Indian Ocean, on the lines of a treaty already in force in the Mediterranean.

The Nairobi-based United Nations Environment Programme (Unep) is sponsoring the meeting. The experts will concentrate on legal measures to control pollution from land-based sources - such as discharge from rivers and sewage from coastal towns - as well as oil spills from tankers travelling along the East African coast.

## Belgium acts to halt trade in ivory and fur

By Tony Samstag

Belgium is to ratify an international convention on traffic in wildlife on January 1, thus closing what the World Wildlife Fund describes as "the major conduit of Europe's trade in rare and endangered species".

Sabena Airline records show ivory shipments during the past 10 years "represent the deaths of up to 40,000 elephants". In the past five years, imports of furs and wild animals were worth £15m.

● **BRUSSELS:** Sabena has again come under attack for its role in the ivory trade, with the accusation that it has wrongfully been transporting tusks from Burundi (AFP reports).

The European Environment Bureau has joined the World Wildlife Fund in asking the airline to halt the carriage of unfashioned ivory under conditions contrary to the Washington Convention on endangered species.

## Korean pleads guilty in Burma bomb trial

Rangoon (AP) - A North Korean army officer pleaded guilty yesterday to charges of murdering 21 people in the bomb attack against South Korean leaders in Rangoon's Martyr's Mausoleum on October 9.

Captain Kang Min Chul nodded after each of the charges was read out in the Rangoon division court - two murder charges, one of attempted murder and the fourth for illegal arms possession.

A second defendant, Major Zin Mo, refused to speak or make any gesture when charges against him were read. Under Burmese criminal procedure, the accused does not have to enter a plea.

The court chairman, Lieutenant-Colonel Maung Maung, asked prosecution and defence lawyers to present their final arguments in writing before Friday, when the court will pass sentence.

The maximum penalty for murder is death, attempted murder is punishable by life imprisonment and illegal possession of arms by 10 years in prison.

The attack killed 17 South

Korean officials and four Burmese. Among the dead were four South Korean Cabinet ministers and other senior officials.

After the court chairman read the judgment, Kang was asked to stand and was charged with premeditated murder. The charge was translated into English, then Korean. Kang hesitated and nodded, which was regarded as a guilty plea.

He appeared shaken, and he swayed. The chairman asked him to sit while the other charges were read.

The 29-year-old officer also pleaded guilty to wounding three pursuing policemen, the murder of three soldiers when he exploded a hand grenade in an apparent suicide attempt and illegal possession of a pistol with a silencer.

Yesterday's session began with the court chairman saying the evidence clearly showed that Major-General Kang Chang of the North Korean Army, ordered Zin Mo and a third officer, Sin Ki Chol, to go to Burma to assassinate President Chun Doo-hwan, who was on a visit.

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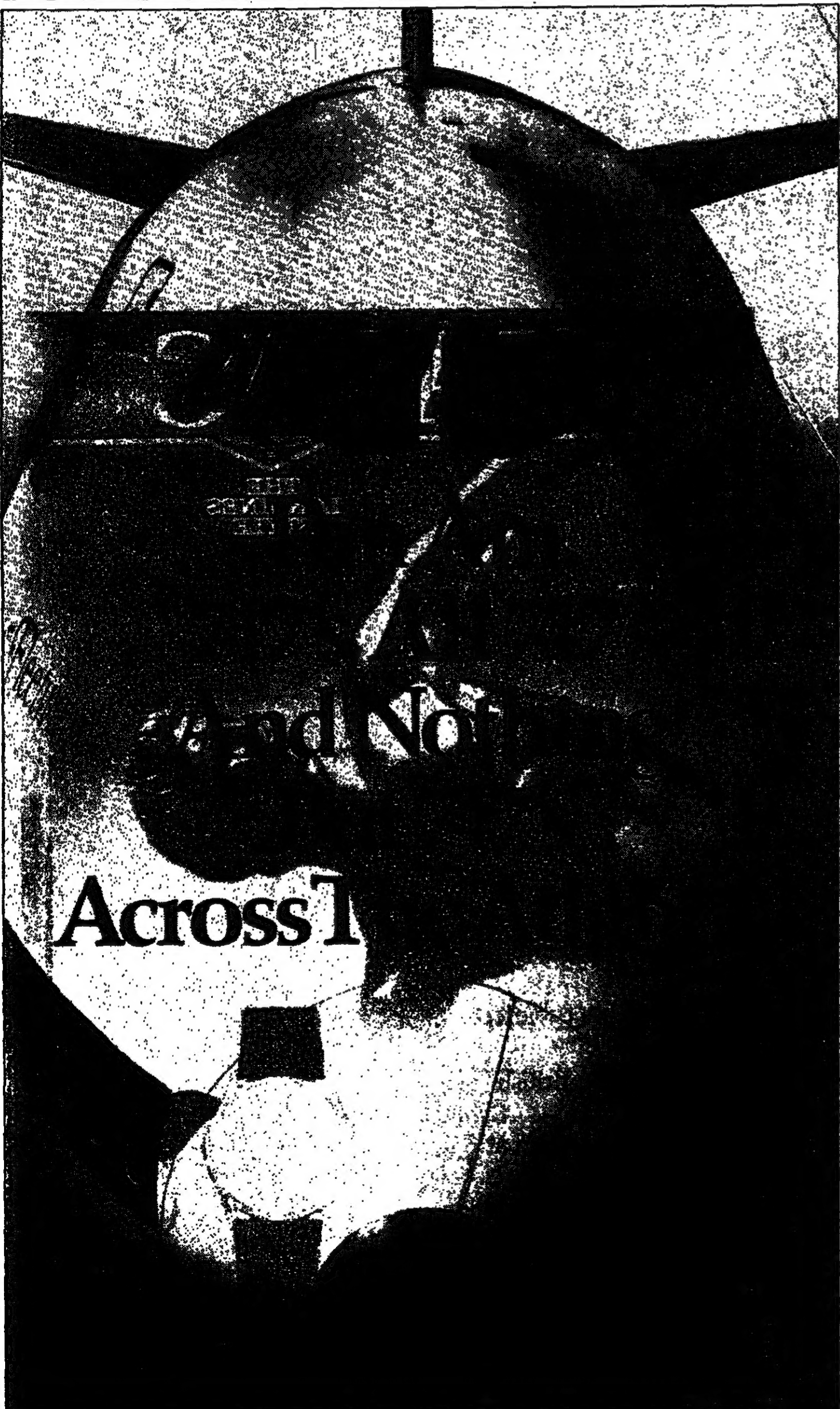
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## THE ARTS

## The fall and rise of 'Star'



James Mason as Norman Maine: "Hollywood was not in favour of the picture"

"For me the whole thing was a great treat. When I first arrived in Hollywood I had put myself at a great disadvantage, because I didn't do the right things. At that time anyone with career ambitions had to sign up for a long-term contract with one of the studios. It was the only way you got a lift and the sort of vehicles on which a career is built up. But I didn't like the idea of a long-term contract, because it meant that somebody else would have to make my decisions for me.

"So I went freelance. I had done a couple of half decent pictures at 20th Century, but nothing else very promising. So that to be offered a film like *A Star is Born* was something special. I had heard that they were offering it to other people - properly established people. They offered it to Bogey, for instance, and to Cary Grant, who had actually got to the point of sitting in at the readings with Judy.

"So it was very nice for me to get it. It was fun from the start. I thought Moss Hart's script was extremely good, and I had the greatest possible faith in Cukor, though it was the only time I ever worked with him. I approved wholeheartedly of all the cast, and I had an enormous admiration, sort of love, for Judy Garland already before we started.

"She was marvellous to work with. Of course she had her difficulties. She had got into this strange way of life when she

In 1954, George Cukor directed Judy Garland and James Mason in *A Star is Born* - a musical version of a story that had been twice filmed before: in 1932 by Cukor himself, as *What Price Hollywood?*, and in 1937 by William Wellman. The film had a spectacular Hollywood premiere on September 29, 1954, but a few weeks later Warner Brothers recalled the prints, to cut them from 3 hours to 150 minutes. Two years ago, with the support of the American Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences and of Warner Brothers, Ronald Haver began the search for such fragments of the cut portions as might have survived, scattered

in the film vaults. After many months he had collected enough to reconstitute a version approximating to Cukor's original. Cukor himself died the day before its first screening, which Sheridan Morley described on this page a few months ago. The restored version of *A Star is Born* has just opened at the Gate, Notting Hill, and other cinemas. James Mason, who plays Norman Maine, a Hollywood star whose career is on the wane at the same time as Esther Blodgett (Garland) is rising to the top, recalls his experiences in making the film, in an interview with David Robinson

it had been used only for big things like *The Robe*. Nicholas Ray in *Rebel Without a Cause* and Kazan with *East of Eden* had opened it up; and it had suited the underwater scenes in another film I did at this time, Richard Fleischer's *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea*; but this was the first time it had been used really intelligently.

"My own work on the film was finished, of course, as soon as there were no more dialogue scenes required. The scenes where I was involved with music had already been done. So at that point they stopped production and took a break to prepare the big, marathon numbers "Born in a Trunk" and "Lose that Long Face".

The latter number was one of the cuts made by Warners. I didn't expect them to do anything as big as "Born in a Trunk". I was always poking my nose into other peoples' business and trying to solve their problems for them, and I knew that Jack Warner was getting rather browned off with the slow progress and mounting cost of the film. So I thought the best thing to do would be to call up Louis B. Mayer and see if he had some old numbers with Judy left over that they hadn't used in her films, and do a deal for them. That certainly is what I would have been tempted to do if I'd been in Jack Warner's shoes; so it came as a surprise when they shot a 15-minute musical sequence.

"When I saw the film finally it had already been truncated; and I was disappointed. I felt the scenes cut from the beginning were among the best - certainly for Judy. She was playing them at a level of comedy, against a stressful situation, and was at her very best.

"Moreover, as it stood, "Born in a Trunk" seemed a big, uncalculated thing, quite disproportionate now that the film had been shortened. So I was disappointed: though not disappointed that "Losing that Long Face" had been dropped. In the full version, of course, you see how it helps that part of the picture: the placing of it actually makes it more dramatic. There are so many things that work better like that; and the public realizes it. Like me, I think the public's reaction to the cut version was one of disappointment although they could not at the time know why.

"Anyway, now we have the full version at last. It's most fun seeing it with an audience. I've done a certain amount of touring around with it - Radio City Music Hall (6,000 people - wonderful), Washington, Dallas, the Paramount Theatre in Oakland, a wonderful art deco theatre beautifully restored. I went to all these shows. It's a sort of charity deal really. I was doing it for and in the interests of the Academy, which is worth supporting. They have a hard time doing the work they want to do, part of which is restoring old films, which is very costly. The Oscar show, whatever you may think of it, makes a great deal of money for them. And that's what it's for: to provide funds for work like this on our picture."

## Television



Videostars: John Birt and Caroline Quentin

Howard Shuman, he of the Rock Follies, thinks that the broad issue about television is whether you should send people to sleep or wake them up, which is too broad a definition for me, leaving out both those who do not need television as a stimulant to wakefulness and those for whom it provides a welcome answer to insomnia.

Mr Schuman favours waking people up. His *Videostars*, BBC 1 last night, envisaged the kind of cable TV show he hopes there might be fears there will not be. I reckon his fears are well founded though I do not think it will be a deprivation.

His play covered the fortunes of Channel D, produced as a kind of misfit TV and run by a manic bunch all well qualified to meet any such demand. There was the kind of television show guaranteed to indulge the appetite for gaping without participating, which television at its worst is best at.

It rampaged through 80 minutes with no trouble, full of fast-forward talk, pop caricature, cynicism, and entertainment. Channel D becomes a raging success resented only by reactionaries who turn out to be corrupt but triumphant. At last the defeated crew is planning a pirate station to broadcast from a plane circling over Pimlico.

It was smart, slick, always on the edge of possibility, exuberantly directed by Colin Bucksey and produced by Kenneth Trodd with strong performances by Tim Curry as the loony presenter, Benedict Taylor, Nicholas Ball and Walter Fall.

Yorkshire's *First Tuesday* went to West Virginia, where men are men and women will not be left on the surface. They go down the coal mines. There are 3,000 women miners in the US and, as Charles Flynn's film showed, they are a formidable breed.

Fifty-year-old Dorothy Keane, the first woman to venture into one Appalachian mine, testified that the men had put her through hell for six months but she had stuck it out and certainly did not seem diminished. Her grandchildren, she said, were ecstatic about her being a miner.

Women miners began to multiply five years ago when the Coal Employment Project took legal action to end discrimination. Opposition had come not only from men but from their wives, but the newer generation of males are taking female buddies for granted. This summer one woman died alongside six men in an underground explosion but this has only served to make the women determined to make the mines safer.

The second half of the programme, directed by Peter Gordon, dealt with strippers in the North-East. Stripping is one of the few booming businesses and the big day is Sunday when the men sip their pints and peer over their shoulders, their own little women are cooking the lunch. Sub-titles might have helped here and there but it was nicely done.

Dennis Hackett

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# THE ARTS

## Concerts

### Well-balanced

**Chilingirian Quartet**  
Elizabeth Hall

Programming a Beethoven quartet cycle demands considerable skill, for the greatest quartets are not the biggest. It seemed odd in Sunday afternoon's second instalment of the current cycle by the Chilingirian Quartet to use the rapt Op 127 Quartet as a preface to the expansive First Rasmovsky Op 59 No 1; but it worked admirably, for the tautness of the former induced a concentration in both playing and listening that lasted through the discursiveness of the latter.

I have not heard this quartet for some years - since before Csaba Erdelyi replaced Simon Rowland-Jones as the viola player - and what was then a leader-heavy ensemble, dominated by Levon Chilingirian's characteristic but sometimes wayward playing, has now become a splendidly well-balanced and mutually responsive group.

The way the opening of the Adagio in Op 127 rose up from the half-breathed cello pulse to flower gradually in Chilingirian's solo showed complete understanding: matching of

tone and phrasing was very subtle (the first violin's prelude to the fugato in the opening movement of the Rasmovsky, and the cellist's statement of the Adagio theme in the same quartet were both magically textured), yet each player spoke with a strong, individual voice.

Though the sound is rich - sometimes too rich, as when the first violin's crucial change in a repeated phrase from A flat to A in the Op 127 finale was blurred by a slide - there was plenty of fierce attack. The Maestoso sections of Op 127 were superbly sonorous; perhaps more contrast between the sforzando and staccato marks would increase the power. But it was good to hear accents hit hard and dynamic nuances so faithfully observed.

Oddly, the two movements that misfired were the two scherzos: that in Op 127 was sharply outlined but the sections did not hang together, and as for the supremely witty one in Op 59 No 1, its rhythms were so tamely projected that it did not sound like a scherzo at all - which made Beethoven's final joke sound weirdly out of place. Still, fine playing: the next concert is next Wednesday.

Nicholas Kenyon

**Goldsmiths Choral Union/Wright**  
Festival Hall

The virtues of Brian Wright's approach to *Messiah* with the Goldsmiths Choral Union are several. Not the least is his balance of the choral forces, numbering about 160 at Monday night's performance, and their relationship to the Musicians of London, about 30-strong whose modest space on the platform meant that the choir can be accommodated closely to them, on the tiers usually filled by orchestral players, thereby achieving a greater community of musical spirit.

It brought about a welcome clarity of texture in most of the courses, which were sung with vivacious spirit and sprung rhythms, making a light burden not only of "His yoke is easy", but also of the government that would be laid on the Saviour's shoulder in "For unto us". The off-stage trumpets gradually advancing closer made an impressive effect in "Gloria to God", and only some less assured phrases in "Their sound is gone out" raised some doubts as to how far.

Of the four young soloists Susan Mason displayed a true

contralto, deep and rich, giving strength of feeling to "But who may abide" and making one regret that "He was despised" was shortened to its first section alone. She invested this with a modest but welcome degree of ornament, whereas Fiona Dobie's light soprano concentrated more on clearly sung divisions as in "Rejoice greatly", but left other solos without sufficient range of vocal colour.

Adrian Thompson's elegance and style made much of the terse affected a curious syllabic stress in referring to "A rod of eye-rod" which came as something of a jolt, but was elsewhere most affecting, notably in "Behold and see", but sang "The trumpets shall sound" with a confidence reinforced by Michael Laird's trumpet obbligato.

Here again the number was shortened, but not perhaps to its disadvantage. Mr Wright is a shrewd judge of musical character that treats a further balance between period style and musical purpose. Without invoking the whining strings of baroque scholarship, or the colourless vocal tone that goes with them, he ensured that Handel's most universal memorial acquired freshness and even urgency of message.

Noel Goodwin

## Interview



Richard Alston, left, and John Hubbard discuss the costume for one of the ballerinas in *Midsummer*

## A meeting of landscape and dance

Tonight the Royal Ballet performs two premieres: a new work by David Bintley and *Midsummer*, choreographed by Richard Alston and designed by John Hubbard. John Percival talks to Alston and Hubbard about their first work together

Before he became a choreographer, Richard Alston was at art school: who can tell whether that has been a factor in his having strong views on how he wants his ballets to look? He has in the past even designed some of them himself, but lately has found himself more eager to let other influences into the making of his works.

So it came about that, having been commissioned for the first time by the Royal Ballet, he took advantage of a trip to the country with friends to invite himself to the Dorset home of the painter John Hubbard and ask him, out of the blue, whether he would design the new ballet. The outcome can be seen at Covent Garden tonight, when *Midsummer* has its premiere.

Alston had already chosen the music: Tippett's *Fantasia Concertante* on a theme of

Corelli. Why that particular score? "Out of all the music I listened to, the Tippett seemed to have the qualities I wanted, most particularly a warmth of feeling in direct contrast to Hindemith's *Konzertmusik*, the most recent score I had used."

"Having made that decision, all sorts of logistical factors confirmed it. For one thing, I did not want to take on anything too extended. I think perhaps that when I made *The Kingdom of Pagodas* in Copenhagen last year I attempted too much, working with a classical ballet company for the first time: it was a long work and for a big cast. I decided this time to use a dozen dancers, a number corresponding to the concertante nature of the Tippett - larger than a chamber group, but not a full orchestra."

"The ballet begins and ends with *pas de deux*, in between which the texture is more complex. There is a section for the men, for instance, in which each in turn comes to the front for a solo while the other five keep a sort of ground-bass going behind. The sections flow swiftly one into the other, reflecting the pace and continuity of the music."

The piece is to be conducted

by Howard Williams (new to ballet), who is preparing Tippett's *Knot Garden* for the Opera Factory next year, and Tippett, who has been enthusiastic and supportive, will be at the premiere of *Midsummer*.

Listening to the music gave Alston "such a strong feeling of landscape that I thought of asking a landscape painter to design it, and I felt that John Hubbard's painting in particular reflected the multi-layered texture of the string orchestra."

Alston and Hubbard had been introduced at Sadler's Wells during one of Ballet Rambert's seasons when Alston's ballets were being given, but they did not really know one another, although each knew and liked the other's work. Hubbard takes up the story of how they worked together.

"I started by listening to the music, and I developed an idea which I prepared in four different versions. I then showed them to Richard and he said no, that was not what he had in mind at all. He did not want an "English landscape" look, but something hotter and more energetic. We were in my flat at the time and there were two of my pictures on the wall which he pointed out as both having something of the quality he was hoping for."

"That was most helpful and I began again. I once more made four different versions, but there was one I much preferred, and that was the one Richard chose."

Hubbard thereupon took up the questioning: "You told me it was the first time you had ever had the *decor* of one of your ballets six months before the premiere. Did it affect your choreography to know what kind of background it would be seen against?"

"In one sense no, because the ballet comes from the music,

but I could have treated that music more sharply. I think that the flow of your design, seeping right across the back of the stage, made me use a softer, more fluid kind of music in the arms and shoulders, for instance."

A black and white photograph of the model for the decor reveals it to be a sweeping abstract pattern. Alston adds that it is also full of brilliant colour. He made the somewhat reluctant Hubbard design the costumes, but by mutual agreement they have been kept simple.

"I hate the shiny lycra tights that so many people use nowadays", Alston explains. "It seems to me that they dehumanize the dancers, turn them into glossy objects. I would rather see people who look like people on the stage."

He has picked a young cast and speaks enthusiastically about them, and about how hard the company works, noting that while his and David Bintley's new ballets were in preparation, they also put on *Swan Lake*, *Manon* and three mixed bills, all with several casts. The reverse of this is that his first cast will perform *Midsummer* only four times this month, and a second cast just once, and then have to wait until the 1984-5 season before it can possibly be scheduled again.

"With Rambert, four performances of a work represents one week, and then they do it again each week through the tour." However, Alston recognizes that the scarcity of performances at Covent Garden makes it all the more important that the ballet is absolutely right by the opening. "Well, the score is wonderful, the design strong and the dancers excellent, so if anything is wrong, the fault can only be mine."

## Opera in New York

### Sacrificing all

**Ernani**  
Metropolitan Opera

Verdi's fifth opera, *Ernani*, is a forward-looking work which, in its concision, tunefulness and reliance on what Gabriele Baldini has termed an "abstract libretto" of outsized emotions, floating as if in the void and generating sparks through contact with each other, foretells the very similar, but much better coordinated, features of *Il trovatore*.

*Trovatore* was written, so it was said, for the four greatest voices in the world, almost the same goes for *Ernani*. Perhaps this is why the Metropolitan Opera has kept it on the fringes of its repertoire since the Bing days (though its most powerful attribute was always the dominating portrayal of the king, Carlo, by Leonard Warren). The merit (or demerit, depending on your point of view) of the new production of *Ernani* at the Met is that it chose to sacrifice everything to a concert in costume.

The sets and production were by Pier Luigi Samaritani, whose baroque paintings-brought-to-life of dusky colours, rich velvet and sweeping staircases served as a plush jewel box for the singers, who found themselves, with the chorus, posed picturesquely rather than staged, and posed moreover close to the welcoming audience. *Ernani* entered "suddenly" by strolling in from the wings: the Silva conspiracy of at least 50 armed men against Carlo was instantly overcome by the appearance of five or six soldiers. The stage-pictures, however, were striking.

It was all in the voices. As *Ernani*, Luciano Pavarotti was in excellent voice in a role that suits him in its range and in its lyric-spinto character. In this honour, James Levine interpolated the rather banal but undoubtedly effective Act II grand aria "Odo il voto" (which Verdi wrote for the tenor Ivanoff). The bandit chorus was

kept discreetly off-stage until the cabaletta. Pavarotti's restrained movements and his claron tenor made for a strong *Ernani*, at its most affecting in the final trio. Though the voice now lacks colour and tends to close at the very top, Pavarotti deserved his ovation.

Leona Mitchell's Elvira was sung with lovely tone and graceful ease, needing slightly more rhythmic point and temperament, especially for her opening "Ernani, Involami." Ruggiero Raumondi, once again, was an outstanding presence - he is the finest bass in the company. His Silva, forceful of voice and musically plant of phrase, was always a pleasure, though he skewed the story by appearing, not as a white-haired fanatic dotard but as a vigorous, grey-haired elder who could have chewed up both *Ernani* and Carlo before breakfast.

Sherrill Milnes has not been in good vocal health lately (he cancelled his gala appearance), and in truth his Carlo was not what he could sing at his best. The voice seemed pushed, cloudy at the beginning.

He gathered his forces for his Act III scena and cavatina but, though he did display a ringing top, there was little sense of easy command about the singing.

Early and middle Verdi are James Levine's known weaknesses. He applies his rhythmic nerve and at times a sweep (the final act went best), but what is missing is an overall feel for the shape of Verdi on the larger scale, a feel that he has for the works of Wagner, Strauss and, I think, Mozart. Here, the whole dissolves into the "numbers" of the mid-nineteenth century operatic storehouse, and there is a ponderousness which undercuts the emergent quicksilver vitality of Verdi's writing.

But it was a singers' evening, and, as such, hurried by those who want the Met to be, in this centennial year, what it has always prided itself on being, a singers' house.

Patrick J. Smith



Luciano Pavarotti as *Ernani*: In excellent voice

## London debuts

### Dynamic contrasts

A rewarding week, introducing two recent prize-winners. It was for the vividness of his characterization, with richly savoured words, that the East German baritone, Olaf Bär (discovered in last summer's Walther Gruener International Lieder Contest) made such an impression. Wolf Strausz accommodated his strong dynamic contrasts, with one or two over-excitably hard-hit top notes, better than Mendelssohn and Schumann, where suaver tonal gradation and line would sometimes have been welcome. But it was a vibrant voice of true operatic potential.

Congratulations, too, to the John Mills Guitar Competition jury for finding a winner of such musical and technical finesse as the young Swede Mats Bergström. The use of a mellow-toned 11-stringed instrument no doubt contributed to clear, expressive part-playing and rhythmic control in Dowland and Bach. But contemporary music played on a normal guitar found him no less sensitive a spell-binder, not least in five delicately atmospheric new Preludes by Timothy Bowers.

An all-Czech programme won Prague's Dolezal Quartet a warm welcome - and rightly so for such mellow tonal homogeneity and rejection of the merely slick. Unhurried tempo and lyrical charm kept Dvorak's "American" Quartet, wholly old-world in spirit, while the scherzo from his Op 105, played as first encore, was a tale of pure joy. Ending with a movement by the early eighteenth-century Mica, they certainly whetted the appetite for further bohemian rarities promised on record.

With a sense of style to underpin an easy command of his instrument, the English violinist, Simon Fischer respected the gravity of Tartini's "Didone abbandonata" Sonata

before travelling chronologically, with ripening tone and strengthening drive, through Beethoven's Op No 3 and Brahms's *Sonatasatz* to Franck's Sonata in A. Here, with generous keyboard support from Gordon Back, the floodgates opened: every phrase flowed. Finally Strausz's *Zigeunerweisen*, bringing a happy reconciliation of temperament and good taste.

It was hard to judge the English cellist James Potter in Beethoven's early F major Sonata since Alan Gravill's injudiciously eager piano playing so often swamped him. In Martinu's Rossini Variations and the Serenade from Stravinsky's *Suite Italienne*, balance markedly improved, revealing Mr Potter as a serious-minded musician able to sustain a firm, significant line even if to become fully wooing his tone, like his phrasing, still seems to need some lubrication.

Joan Chissell

St John's, Smith Square was surrounded by an unprecedented security cordon; the orchestra filled most of the church; Her Majesty the Queen Mother was received in what I always thought was the BBC studio cubicle - the trappings of the gala concert which presented the Ulster Orchestra in London for the first time since its enlargement made concentration on the music difficult. But one could hear enough among the dignitaries and sold-out audience to hail the success of what had been a most enterprising collaborative venture.

In 1981 the Ulster Orchestra, then a 37-piece ensemble brought together (after its independence from the Northern Ireland Arts Council a year earlier) broadcasting authorities, commercial sponsorship, the Musicians' Union and the local Musicians' Association to establish a larger orchestra.

Bryden Thomson, who has directed the orchestra since 1977, had clearly worked wonders to give his new 55-strong orchestra cohesion and character. The sound in St John's (not the ideal place for a large group) was vividly alive, almost rumbustious. In Bax's *Tintagel* (the players have made an apt speciality of his music and that of Hamilton Harty) and Sibelius's First Symphony, the playing had a tremendous sweep and verve.

Nicholas Kenyon

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**TONIGHT CAPTAIN ZUNIGA WILL BE STRANGLERED.**



# Walesa: 'We cannot fail to win'

Every morning this year's Nobel Peace Prize laureate takes the local commuter train to the Lenin shipyards in Gdansk where he clocks in, waves cheerily to the security guard and starts work in the electrical repair section. These days he looks a bit tired.

The cold fact is that Lech Walesa is a man without a clearly defined role. His union has been dissolved, the underground opposition has assumed diffuse forms, none of which requires the kind of charismatic leadership that he can offer. The Nobel Prize - which his wife Danusia will collect in Oslo on Saturday - has, however, restored to him the moral authority he needs to speak freely and loudly about the gap between government achievements and the expectations of the Polish people. Politically, he must wait again for the development of a mass protest movement. The Nobel Prize means that however long he has to stand off-stage, sharing Poland's suspended animation, he will not be forgotten.

The following interview was conducted in Gdansk at the end of November by two Polish journalists whose wish is to remain anonymous. It covers Walesa's present position; his relationship with the Polish Government, with Solidarity's underground workers and with the Church, and his expectations for the future of his country's struggle.



"I noticed at one point that the Holy Father looked tired", Walesa said. "I decided to cheer him up."

How do you feel in your role as Nobel Peace Prize laureate?

The prize isn't for me; it's for the non-violent forms of struggle implemented by Solidarity. I told everyone who rang up to congratulate me, "It's all thanks to you, it's your prize." And I really think that it is. Of course, I'm pleased, like everyone, but after all this prize has brought me endless troubles. I have handed the money over to the fund for agriculture; the medals, diplomas and so on will be placed at the Monastery of St Mary of Jasna Gora, where everyone can benefit from them.

Don't you think this prize has come a year too late?

Frankly, I didn't expect it even now. But I think it has come at a good time. We were getting a little tired, and this certainly helped. And we now have the conditions to put it to positive use. Of course, the question is not merely one of money, but of being able to communicate our ideas to the whole world. A year ago there was still too much emotion and high feeling to construct a positive programme.

Why did you earmark the money for agriculture (i.e. the church-sponsored funds for individual farmers) and not, for instance, for the underground's activities?

You must understand that the underground represents only one stage in our struggle. But we all of us live off the earth and we all have to feed ourselves. The crisis is getting worse,

and no one can handle it. If we have something to eat, then let the people on top squabble for positions; we'll do our own stuff.

Why have you decided against going in person to accept the prize?

I decided that my wife Danusia should go, along with our eldest son, and Mr Mazowiecki [a Catholic intellectual and adviser to Walesa]. I did so for two reasons. Participating in the ceremony, in a dinner jacket, I would feel a little like a penguin in the knowledge that my friends - my co-laureates - are sitting in prison. And then, Walesa refused re-entry to the country. Walesa in the West, would be much more convenient for the authorities than Walesa here.

Your activity has been compared to that of Gandhi. What do you make of this comparison?

I do not think Gandhi's geopolitical situation was easier.

Are there any differences between you and the TTK [Provisional Coordinating Commission] in your assessment of the situation?

I think there are no serious differences between us, which is not to say that we agree on everything. There are some differences, and so there should be. But I repeat, nothing fundamental. We are, after all, all fighting for the same thing, but with different methods.

You have to understand some tactical differences. Someone working underground, like the TTK, cannot

afford to adopt a mild stance. If you have committed yourself to a decisive struggle, you have to be decisive in carrying it through. Softening, looking for mild solutions, should be left to those who are active in the open. Let them tread gently, but the TTK should be firm.

They represent a position that has been reached democratically. As a member of the union, I must sometimes submit to their decisions. I will put forward my own proposals as well, but I shall make sure that no misunderstandings arise between us which might suggest non-existent conflicts.

You may have noticed that after my first meeting with them in April, the statement which was issued was signed only by members of the TTK. But the statement after our meeting, in November, carries my signature too. This is because the situation now is extremely dangerous and unity is required. The government's programme means the impoverishment of society.

In your opinion, should the Solidarity underground come out into the open? I have always maintained that each person should choose the most effective methods of struggle according to his abilities. Each should, in accordance with his own conscience, decide on the way he will choose.

Are you not taking your activities only half-way from fear of imprisonment? I have never been afraid of prison.

Those who know me know also that I have been in prison many times. I am not afraid of it today any more than I was then. But I think that my activities are more effective, and more profitable, if they remain in the open. It's possible that one day I may be able to achieve more by being imprisoned. I'm really not afraid of it.

**'I have never been afraid of prison'**

Are you able to communicate with the underground leadership of the union?

As you know, I have met them once already. Contrary to appearances, the protection of the security services is not effective. Of course, now, it's more difficult for me, I am better known and under closer surveillance than I was before August [1980], but I still know how to lose them. But seriously, we are fighting for the same thing, so of course we have to discuss and arrange things, and there must be some contact.

You are still unquestionably the leader of Solidarity. But the name of [Zbigniew] Bujak is chanted more and more often at demonstrations. What is your impression of this?

These people had an enormous role to play, because they were responsible for organizing resistance when I was sitting in an internment camp. Hence their great authority. Not only Bujak's, who is in hiding, but also [Wladyslaw] Frasyniuk's, who is in prison. I am not irreplaceable, and I would even be very happy if someone would finally come along and take my place. This year should see the second congress of Solidarity: it was meant to take place biannually. Not only my own successors, but the successors of Bujak and Frasyniuk as well, would certainly have made their appearance there. Naturally they are not visible yet, but they are doing their work.

You have said that more people support us now than during the time of Solidarity. Can we infer from this that more people today are hostile to the regime?

I have never said anything about hostility. I have never used that term. Of course more people support us now than in our best times. You only have to know how to see it. Perhaps it's not so visible at demonstrations. Our society has a very developed political consciousness. It knows that today, when our side offers non-violent forms of protest, and the other side offers only truncheons and prisons, demonstrations are ineffective. We must be able to leave the streets for the factories and to be active there. That was where we won in August, that is where we shall win again. At the same time there are many people on the other side who wish us well and who are already helping us: even some of the police. But we shall not win tomorrow, and there's no use deluding ourselves; we have to get there with the fewest possible losses.

You don't visit various regions of the country in the way that you did when Solidarity was legal. How, then, do you know the mood of the people? As I said before, I do have contacts. People from all over Poland are constantly coming to see me, too many of them, in fact. And we talk. I can't and I don't want to supervise, to direct. Many local initiatives have started up. At the beginning there was some hesitation, but later new people came, and take root. They solve their own problems, because they have to. This is a very good thing: people have to learn to act and make decisions on their own.

What is your attitude to the Church? Does the Church advise you? The Church transcends time, and I would like it to stay that way. Current political matters are not the affair of the Church. But it will advise anyone who listens to its teachings. Even those who go to mass in the course of their duties. The Church doesn't say: do this, do that. It speaks of truth and of dignity, and that is enough.

How would you assess the role of the Church in Poland today, after the delegitimation of Solidarity? My attitude to the Church has not

changed. What has happened is that the Church's obligations to the people have increased. It had to take on responsibility for helping the interned, the imprisoned, and all those in need, and it did this splendidly. Indeed, it continues to do it.

May I ask what you talked of during your last meeting with John Paul II?

A communique was issued on the subject of my meeting with the Holy Father. I can add only one thing to it. I noticed at one point that the Holy Father looked tired, troubled. I decided to cheer him up, and I said: Holy Father, I think Poland is a chosen nation, the most fortunate nation in the world. The Holy Father looks at me and asks why. I say that every day, many times a day we can define ourselves. We live helplessly, things which are evident elsewhere are not evident here, black is white for us. We are constantly testing ourselves. That is why we are able to go back to the roots. At the same time we look at rich Americans and ask, by what tests do the measure themselves? Well, they can pick up a new girl, get a new car... The Holy Father liked this very much.

You are constantly surrounded and under surveillance by the police. How do you manage to live in these conditions?

It's not pleasant, but you can get used to anything. Every situation has its good sides. Even when so many cars tail me and so many people follow me, at least everyone knows where their taxes are going.

Do you read the newspapers? What is your reaction when the official press attacks you?

Of course I read the papers. I especially enjoy reading articles in which I am attacked. Because if they attack me, that means that they are afraid of me, and of the rest of us. And anyway, the things they accuse me of are always absurd. Now, when I send my wife Danusia to take my place at the Nobel prize ceremonies, they will probably say I am sending her off because I want to play around with other women while she's away.

What do you expect from the West, today?

Perseverance. Above all perseverance, and remembering that the work we are doing here is not only for ourselves. We are propagating peaceful methods of achieving goals. Our ideals apply not only to Poland. They should form the basis for international solidarity.

What do you think of the pending trials of members of the National Commission and KOR [the Workers Defence Committee]?

I am ashamed that such things take place in my country. Unfortunately, we have no effective means at the moment of preventing a situation where the best of us get sentenced and put in prison. These people really are the best among us, and we must do everything to prevent this.

Bringing charges against seven members of the National Commission and experts from KOR isn't law, it's

**'They will achieve nothing with tanks'**

political revenge. It is an attempt to divide us. Of course we had our differences of opinion with Kuron [Jacek Kuron, KOR leader], or Rulewski [Jan Rulewski, Solidarity leader in Bydgoszcz region]. But I was the leader, I stood at the head of the National Commission. The talk about an extreme wing of Solidarity is propaganda rubbish. Their public statements are cut up and put back together in such a way as to make it seem that they wanted to overthrow everything. You can do that with anyone. We worked together, and if anyone finds them guilty, then they must find me guilty too.

What is "Solidarity" today? A value and an ideal which we have served and which we continue to serve. The name Solidarity best expresses what we are doing and want to keep on doing.

Do you have a programme of action? What is it?

I'm not alpha and omega and I can't provide solutions on a golden platter. But it is certain that the people on the other side will come to see that they won't achieve anything with tanks and shouted threats. Some of them have already come to see this. They will become more and more divided among themselves, will blame each other when things continue to get worse. We must be prepared for that. We cannot let ourselves be divided and we must return to our factories. That is our place, that is where our strength lies. We must also have concrete economic and administrative solutions, so that we don't repeat the business with the Solidarity statutes, which were drawn up in two days because no-one had thought of it before. But I am a worker and I can't prepare that myself. There are wiser people out there, they should consider and draw up proposals, and the time for implementing them will surely come.

I am convinced that we simply cannot fail to win. The system is inefficient, it doesn't work, and we must prepare new solutions. Perhaps it would be good if these were solutions not only for us, but for the whole world.

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moreover...  
Miles Kington

## Season's greetings to you, too

However much we like Advent calendars, there is something very old-fashioned about them, something which doesn't quite correspond to the year like little windows. So for all of you who like little windows but don't like pictures of teddy bears and red-breast robins, here's a brilliant new idea - a Christmas check-list!

Simply tick off each of the following Christmas omens as you see them. When all the boxes are full, it's Christmas time.

☐ An article by Kingsley Amis on hangovers, and the uselessness of trying to cure them.

☐ A reminder that it is now too late to post Christmas cards abroad.

☐ A message from the BBC that you can see more than 100 feature films over the Christmas period if you have nothing better to do.

☐ A man from the Weather Centre saying that we are unlikely to have a white Christmas this year, but we can always dream about it.

☐ Bing Crosby on radio doing just that.

☐ The first Christmas card from someone you wouldn't dream of sending a card to.

☐ A search for gloves which reveals only three in the house, none of them matching.

☐ A horrendous traffic jam explained by the surly taxi driver as being caused by all those blasted people come to see the Christmas decorations.

☐ The sudden realization that all the Christmas trees left in the shops are less than a foot high.

☐ The first Christmas card from someone whose address you have lost.

☐ The general air of foreboding and doom at work, caused by the approach of the office party.

☐ A cheery article about mulled wines and hot punches, which you cut out and put with all the articles you have cut out at previous Christmases.

☐ The first Christmas card from a relative abroad to whom it is now too late to send a card back.

☐ The first TV trailers for Christmas specials, made by TV stars who have already finished the programme and are now loitering in the Bahamas.

☐ An encouraging article saying that Beaujolais nouveau is now even better to drink than when it first got here, and that the stampede to drink it on the day of arrival was only a publicity gimmick by the importers. The article does not mention that it, too, is a publicity gimmick by the importers.

☐ The first TV news item on Christmas at Greenham Common.

☐ The first Christmas card from an illegible signature.

☐ A belated decision to go out and buy a Christmas tree less than a foot high, only to find that they have all been bought by Japanese bonzai tree enthusiasts.

☐ The first ice on the inside of the bedroom window.

☐ The first feature about young British novelists saying which pop-up books they have most enjoyed in 1983.

☐ A premature leak about the Queen's Christmas broadcast, revealing either that she is addressing the unemployed directly this year, or that Barry Manilow will make a guest appearance.

☐ An announcement by British Rail called Special Christmas Services, announcing that there will be no trains on Christmas Day.

☐ The sudden memory that the big box hidden away for the children said on the lid, "Batteries not included".

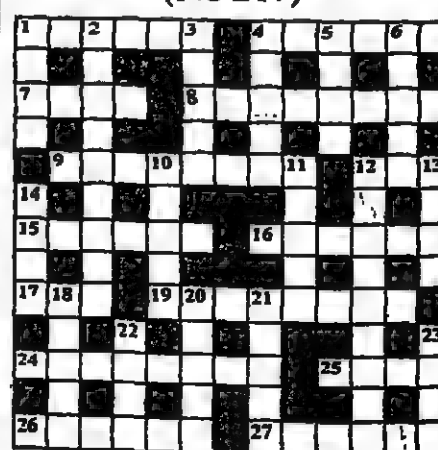
☐ A realization that the only calendars left in the shops feature either kittens or pairs of Scotland coloured bright yellow and blue.

☐ The gradual replacement of all scheduled TV programmes by trailers for Christmas programmes.

☐ The appearance of the first TV news reader with a piece of holly on the desk.

☐ The total collapse of the television set five minutes after shops close for Christmas.

## CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 217)



- ACROSS
- 1 Insanity (6)
  - 4 Angry speech (6)
  - 7 Leave out (4)
  - 8 Strong reaction (8)
  - 9 Frying pans (8)
  - 12 Plum juice (3)
  - 16 Cucumber-flavoured plant (6)
  - 17 Capture (3)
  - 19 Christ (3,2,3)
  - 24 Double magnam (8)
  - 25 Ignoble (4)
  - 26 Miserly (6)
  - 27 Trustworthy (6)
- DOWN
- 1 Pillage (4)
  - 2 Lack of suspicion (2,7)
  - 3 Simple rustic (5)
  - 4 Implied (5)
  - 5 Flowing garment (4)
  - 6 Russian country house (5)
  - 10 Place (5)
  - 11 Parody (5)
  - 12 Ocean journey (3,6)
  - 13 Hunted animal (4)
  - 14 Pierce (4)
  - 18 Representative (5)
  - 20 Science (5)
  - 21 Energy (5)
  - 22 University robe (4)
  - 23 Remainder (4)

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WEDNESDAY PAGE

ALAN FRANKS' DIARY



# Tidings of something, if not exactly joy

I know it is a blasphemous thought at this time of year, but I do feel the religious lyric is bankrupt of all relevance to the reality of a modern Christmas. The Nativity, I admit, is well covered, what with flock-watching shepherds and lowly cattle sheds. But things have moved on since then, and if the carol is to remain a living organism it must take cognizance of the changes. Accordingly, I am offering the following to my near-neighbours the Shepherds, complete with seasonal greetings:

*While Shepherds quaffed their  
hocks by night  
All seated in the lounge  
Their little angel Maud came  
And furious was her sound.  
"Peer not", said she, for white and  
red  
Had frozen their addled minds.  
"Bad chidings of your noise I  
bring.  
You're drunk; I know the signs."*

It is high time this diary turned back the pages of the calendar, in the interests of comparative study. If runners run faster than they did 30 years ago, if jumpers jump higher and throwers throw farther, then surely children - whose very nature is to evolve - must be naughtier.

How lame theory is. I am reminded of a lad called Hemmings, who blew up his Doctor Barnardo's box in order to invest the contents in yet more explosives. The fact that the little papier mâché house only contained a few centimes and a button (such was the class of donor he attracted) does not really matter; the thought was there. When it came to collection day in the school hall and the teacher said "Hemmings?", he replied, "Please Miss, it's been nicked, Miss", and looked so downcast that there was not a dry eye in the house, save that of Hemmings, who was sipping tears of mirth. If I thought my own child sort of racker, I would resign as a father. I gather that Hemmings has gone on to make a good career for himself in homes insurance.

"While Shepherds quaffed" has not gone down at all well with the family in question. I had forgotten that (a) they live in a state of teetotalitarianism, and (b) their daughter is a byword in filial devotion. She puts her father's slippers out, does the hoovering, goes collecting for the lifeboats, and for all I know works nights in the bakery to help with her school fees. I

*The First Oh-Hell the parents did  
say  
As for certain poor gifts through  
the nose they did pay  
Through the nose they did pay for  
goods lotchy and cheap  
On a bold winter's tariff that was  
so steep  
Chorus:  
Oh-Hell, Oh-Hell, Oh-Hell, Oh-  
Hell  
Mammon is ringing the spiritual  
knell.*

It is past midnight as I glide furiously up Orchard Road towards Maitland's house. All the lights are off in his great Victorian pile. I slip the piece of paper through his door and hurry away down the front steps as the dachshund in the basement hears the clicking of the letter flap and yaps the household awake. The carol sheet reads:

*We two kids of prurient pa  
Barring rifts we're bound to go far  
Massing amounts in canny  
accounting  
Running a company car  
Chorus:  
O-h, car of Humber, car of Snipe  
Car of automatic type  
Profit-bleeding, tax-conceding  
Drive us to our lunch at Whites*

Bump into Maitland at the shops and receive a glacial stare. Clearly he knows the authorship of the lyric. I know that he knows, and he knows that I know that he knows, etc. etc. What he lacks is proof, and there is nothing more galling for a lawyer. Another triumph for Anon.

Bump into both Shepherds in the park, and am cut dead. I return home and try to pen a redressing stanza:  
*While Shepherds scoffed their  
chocs by night...  
I give up.*

# To be or not to be a mother

Hilaire Gomer on the dilemmas of delayed parenthood

The current fashion among women with careers is to put off having babies until they are well into their 30s. The average organized decision-taking woman, however, having taken the decision to start a family, suddenly finds she has stepped on to an antenatal conveyor belt.

She is treated just like her younger counterparts in a world where medicine and midwifery rule - visiting clinics, breathing classes, taking tablets and so on - except when it comes to amniocentesis. This is the foetal abnormality test offered to older pregnant women and familiar to any mother-to-be who has delayed starting a family till later years. With amniocentesis the decision-making returns with a vengeance.

As the trend to have children later in life becomes more common, so do the dilemmas which accompany the test. Amniocentesis is one crucial aspect of pregnancy where the doctors do not make the choices; they merely advise and leave the moral pros and cons with the parents.

The prospect of having the test at 16 weeks of pregnancy jars the cosy, smooth-flowing process of pregnancy. Amniocentesis involves placing a hypodermic needle into the womb near the navel of the mother and withdrawing some of the amniotic fluid which surrounds the foetus. This uterine "liquor" contains foetal cells which have to develop for a minimum of two weeks. A test on the cells will then reveal whether the correct number of chromosomes are present, and will also indicate the child's sex.

The most common chromosomal abnormality results in Down's syndrome, but others indicate spina bifida, anencephaly (when the brain and skull fails to develop properly), as well as other rarer malformations. The NHS will perform the test for women aged 37 or older.

For such women, unpleasant decisions cannot be avoided. For example, Deirdre Austin, a practising Catholic from Acton, was 39 when she became pregnant for the first time. "My husband and I decided to chance it in the end and take whatever God sent", she comments. Happily she gave birth, just days short of her fortieth birthday, to a perfect little girl.

One woman, a successful management consultant aged 34, had the test done privately because of her fear of having a Down's syndrome child. The sixteenth week arrived -

the test cannot be done earlier because only then are the cells sufficiently developed. She had to wait over two weeks for the result, only to learn that the test hadn't taken.

This woman had risked the high odds on having a miscarriage by deciding to have the first test, after much discussion. Now she and her husband had to decide whether to have the test again, and risk another miscarriage. If the second test proved "positive" she would then have to decide whether to terminate the pregnancy at as late as 22 weeks. Fortunately the second test proved negative and she was spared further agonizing.

The risk of miscarriage cannot be underestimated, nor can the danger of limb damage to the foetus and rhhesus blood problems. Tim Colfar, director of studies and consultant at Guy's Hospital, comments: "At 35, according to the statistics, there is an overall 1/300 chance of finding abnormalities by having the test, while there is a 1/150 risk of miscarriage. So, unless the woman is a special case, we would advise not to have an amnio at this age."

Obviously the dilemma becomes easier the older the woman is as the chances of having a mongol foetus becomes higher than the odds on a miscarriage. Thus at 40, a more and more popular age to have a first baby, the incidence of foetal problems jumps to a 1/100 chance; at 46 it is as high as 1/20 for Down's syndrome.

For some women the actual test is not a trauma, merely a necessary means, with luck, to peace of mind for the rest of the pregnancy. For others it is nothing short of a frightening ordeal.

In this country, practitioners tend not to use local anaesthetic, common in America, as the sensation is "barely more than a pin prick", comments Michael House, obstetric consultant at Charing Cross Hospital. He goes on: "One woman was in a terrible state recently - crying and shaking with fear. I thought it was really quite brave of her to go through with it. Afterwards she couldn't believe that it was all over so quickly and painlessly."

Michael House says that he has not dealt with a case where a mother refused to have a termination after abnormalities in the foetus were discovered, but I know of a couple who did just that and are now bringing up their mongol child.

Considering what a termination involves at such a late stage as 18-20 weeks, to go through with it takes courage. At that stage of pregnancy it is too late to have a simple surgical abortion under anaesthetic. Labour has to be induced and the woman gives birth to a developed foetus. These days more and more premature babies can survive at not much more than 20 weeks. The legal limit for a termination is 28 weeks and some doctors, including Mr House, will not do a termination after the twentieth week.

Perhaps the most galling thing of all is to be denied the choice of taking the test because you are just "under age", and then to give birth to an abnormal baby. This is what happened to Heather Tipton of Guildford, who was 36 when she became pregnant during her second marriage, 13 years after having her last baby. At 36 she could have persuaded a doctor to let her have the test on the National Health, but her GP said that it was not done in her area until the age of 40. She did not press further and gave birth to a mongol child who died 10 days later. "We decided not to go ahead with vital operations", explains Mrs Tipton.

She continues: "When very soon afterwards I was pregnant again, there was no question of not having the test. It was done at 16 weeks and I knew at 19 weeks that the child - now three-year-old Polly - was normal."

The risk of miscarriage, the cost to the NHS of doing the test at a younger age and the relative odds against having a deformed baby all weigh against amniocentesis being advised much before 37. In the US 35 is the norm and in Britain any anxious mother can obviously have it done privately at any age at a cost of about £150.

For most pregnant women the life-forming process after conception is pleasantly devoid of decisions. The deed is done and it is just a matter of being patient and watching the stomach grow. So to have to make a number of decisions about the amniotic test can be a shock.

And even after making choices, fate can still intervene. For example, a mother-to-be of twins recently had the test done twice - once for each foetal sack, it was thought. But in fact fluid was taken from the same sack twice by mistake. The tested child was normal, but the other, which escaped the test, was suffering from Down's syndrome.



## Pudding for all tastes

Food, like child-rearing, is a subject on which everyone has views. To write about it is to invite an exchange of ideas and it is never possible to please everyone. Almost any recipe will draw comment.

Talk about anything as basic as jam and several readers are sure to say that they have been making the stuff from great-grandmother's recipe for several decades now and then they expect better, more interesting things from *The Times*. But offer novelty, invention, something exotic or costly and those who like plain fare best take up their pens to say the food here is getting too high falutin, by half.

Anything much plainer than Yorkshire pudding takes some finding. Yet the choice of formulas for this traditional dish is extensive and the results they produce are greatly varied.

## THE TIMES COOK



Shona Crawford Poole

1 large egg  
150 ml (1/4 pint) milk  
4 teaspoons dripping  
Sift the flour and salt into a bowl. Break the egg into the bowl and mix with the flour to make a smooth paste. Gradually add the milk.

mixing constantly, to make a smooth, lump-free batter. Allow the batter to rest for half an hour before cooking it.

Put one teaspoon of dripping (or oil at a pinch) in each depression of the tin. If you have to use a muffin tin with smaller dips, put half a teaspoon of fat in each of eight depressions. To heat the fat put the tin in a pre-heated hot oven (220°C/425°F, gas mark 7) for five minutes, or until it is smoking hot.

Pour the batter into the hot fat and bake the puddings for 20 to 25 minutes. Serve immediately with roast beef, or with lamb.

Individual cheese-flavoured puffs of choux pastry called *gougères* are equally good with lamb and beef. If they are baked in ramekins they will puff up like small, rough soufflés.

### Cheese gougères

Makes six

85g (3oz) butter

170g (6oz) plain flour

3 large eggs, separated  
110g (4oz) Gruyère cheese, grated  
50g (1½oz) Parmesan, grated  
Salt and cayenne pepper

Butter six ramekins and set them aside. Put the remaining butter in a small saucepan with 175ml (6fl oz) water and when the butter has melted, bring to boil. Add the flour all at once and stir over a low heat until the paste leaves the sides of the pan. Take off the heat and beat in the egg yolks, one at a time, followed by the cheeses and a generous seasoning of salt and cayenne.

Whisk the egg whites until they hold stiff peaks. Stir a spoonful of the meringue into the cheese base, then fold in the remainder. Divide the mixture between the buttered ramekins and bake them in a preheated hot oven (220°C/425°F, gas mark 7) for 25 to 30 minutes. They should be well risen and golden. Run a knife round each dish and turn out the *gougères*. Serve immediately.

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Tel: Winkfield Row (0344) 882904.

## TALKBACK

### Women's work

From Mr M. A. Symonds, Columbia House, Winton, Hereford

As a father of six children may I be permitted to comment on male midwifery and in particular the article on the Friday Page, November 25, Philip Chalmers' explanation for wishing to qualify as a midwife seems more concerned with his determination as a very tiny minority to foist yet another opportunity for the prurient on the supine British public.

Maternity is not an illness; it is a private family affair and in my view and my wife's the only male who should be present apart from the husband is a medical practitioner, and then only when there is technical difficulty. There is no shortage of women who wish to be midwives and this article is surely only the first of the propaganda which is to come following the Government's decision and the European Court of Justice.

Assurances that mothers-to-be will have the opportunity to object are hollow. I recently had to ask for a male student nurse to leave my wife's confinement as he was there without our permission. The hospital apologized afterwards, but it was plain that it was quite a regular occurrence.

By the time a woman is in labour and entering hospital, she is too distracted to care who assists and most husbands are too timid to say anything. Husbands and fathers are the only ones who can succeed in making Mr Philip Chalmers superfluous by refusing to have yet another pair of male hands palpating, breaking waters, and all the other personal matters which midwives carry out. It is another example of the ridiculous extremes to which the law has brought us in trying to achieve reasonable and sensible equality for women. We have now to endure the clap-trap of sexual equality for men too.

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# TONIGHT GARCIA WILL BE MURDERED.



# THE TIMES DIARY

## No breaks, just break-up

The Day After, the American nuclear holocaust film due to be transmitted on Saturday, could be The Big Loser for London Weekend Television. Advertisers have shown great reluctance to buy airtime after the actual dropping of the bomb, which occurs 40 minutes into the programme, so the remaining 75 minutes will be screened uninterrupted by commercial breaks. LWT fully understands the advertisers' point of view. "It's hard to think of any product that could be appropriately advertised during the second half", a spokesman said. "A commercial for something like the Halifax Building Society, for example, might look a little odd."

## Line of inquiry

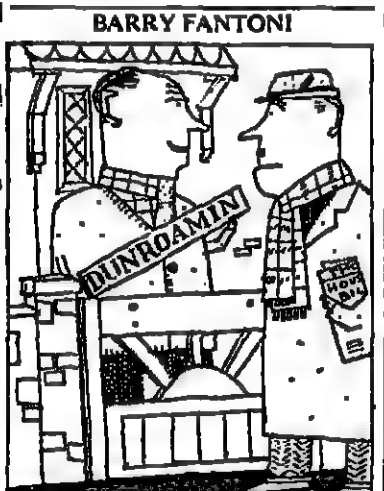
Members of the Post Office Engineering Union can find out the state of play in their current dispute by dialling an automatic answering service. The number of the service is easily misdialed, and so most of the calls are answered by an irate private subscriber saying "wrong number". This is frustrating for one POEU member who uses a British Telecom telephone with a built-in memory, which can be depended upon to select the same wrong number over and over again.

## Put to bed

Newspaper sales have boomed in Lambourne, Berkshire, since businessman Louis Jones began to sell them shredded by the bale to the local racing stables as litter. A Lambourne vet, Barry Park, endorses newspapers as "a brilliant substitute" for straw. "It is not brittle, it doesn't break up and emits no dust, which is marvellous for sensitive thoroughbreds", he says.

## Pop, with class

Albemarle Pawnbrokers, who have just opened in Bristol, in modern premises planned by an interior designer, are aiming for up-market customers, anxious to pawn their home computers and video recorders. Mr Phil Murphy of Albemarle said: "I don't see why people shouldn't use a pawnbroker as readily as they do a building society. We are aiming at a middle-class clientele, including younger people who have never been to a pawnbroker before."



"We're renaming it Durogown conveyancia"

## Leše-majesté

Although Malaysia's nine hereditary rulers are fighting hard against government plans to reduce their powers and privileges, they have not always been so insistent on pomp and pageantry. A colleague who worked in Kuala Lumpur in the early 1960s remembers a Sunday morning visit to a friend who lived next door to the town house of the Raja of Perlis, whose fellow rulers had just elected him King. As they had a pre-lunch beer, a portly, unshaven man wearing vest, sarong and flipflops wandered in to borrow a newspaper. Seeing a stranger, he came over with outstretched hand. "Good morning," he said, "I'm His Majesty".

## Mr Speaker, sir!

Bryan Davies, secretary of the Parliamentary Labour Party, refuses to let my account of the MPs v Press Gallery football match go unchallenged. He says: "The penalty scored by Philip Webster of The Times was the result of a nasty attack on myself. While raising a hand to defend myself against the ball, I was penalized by the so-called neutral referee, David Buchanan of the Daily Star. This incident left victim to the normal slanted reporting which parliamentarians feel obliged to take for granted. Next year, we will provide the referee."

## Daisy clips it out

The programme for Daisy Pulls It Off, at the Globe Theatre is full of spoof items of a jolly hockey stick nature, such as a letter to patrons from headmistress Beryl Waddle-Brown. One item, however, is genuine. Headed "Old Girls Section" and featuring people called Maud and Miss Blagrove and someone called Grace who, in giving a cup for the best badminton pair "has set an example which might well be followed in other directions by Old Girls", it is taken from a City of London School magazine of the 1920s. Anne Savage, who runs the school's old girls' association, spotted it but wasn't a bit cross. She is even organizing an old girls' committee outing to see Daisy. "It was all so nice", she said, after an earlier visit to the play. "No bad language and you didn't have to exercise your brain."

PHS

Christopher Walker on the man caught in the Middle East crossfire

# Husain: the clamp tightens

Amman Outside the restaurant most favoured by Amman's diplomatic community, the guards hired by the owner patrol ceaselessly in search of car bombs. Their red keffiyehs wrapped tightly around their faces, inside, the talk turns to the new terror campaign being mounted in Jordan by Syrian-backed Palestinian extremists and the threat it poses to a country with a pivotal role in the flagging efforts to rescue the Middle East peace process.

The city is now braced for a fresh upsurge of violence following the renewal of King Husain's invitation to Yasser Arafat, the beleaguered PLO chairman, to return and resume the talks he broke off last spring if, as planned, he soon leaves Tripoli under the UN flag. Although the king is known to be concerned about Mr Arafat's personal stability, there is hope of some kind of deal which could prevent the new war that looks increasingly likely.

"Arafat can become strong again, because the West Bank and Gaza Strip still believe in his leadership, and the majority is with him," King Husain said recently. "He can move within this framework to show his popularity, but he should not delay because time may not be on his side."

The discussions last spring were focused on formulating a joint Palestinian-Jordanian approach towards negotiations with Israel on the future of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. The only authenticated claim for the violence (which since mid-October has resulted in six attacks in Jordan and three against Jordanian embassies abroad) specifically warned the government to keep out of "the Palestinian revolution" and not lend support to "the fascist group, under the command of Yasser Arafat". The fact that Abu Nidal, the Palestinian extremists' leader, is now based solely in Damascus left it clear from where the message was really coming.

After 31 turbulent years on the Hashemite throne King Husain, at the age of 48, is now facing what western and Arab observers believe is a predicament as difficult and dangerous as any he has confronted. Once again, he is the man at the centre of the conflict between the relative weakness of his desert kingdom of 2.6 million people. "Too many westerners try to equate the king with the late President Sadat", explained one diplomat. "There is no way he can afford to make the kind of dramatic gesture that broke the log-jam in 1977. His own head is too much on the chopping block."

Apart from the fears aroused by the state of bomb and gun attacks the predominant mood in the capital is one of deep uncertainty, with foreign intelligence services vying with one another to try to read the king's mind. The effort to predict a situation unusually serpentine even for the Middle East has been made harder by the mystery surrounding the health of President Assad of Syria. Jordanian officials believe he is suffering from a severe heart



condition, which could provoke a succession battle. "Whoever wins, it will be bad for us. There are no moderates in the running," said one. King Husain has frankly admitted that events have deprived him of the luxury of taking no action at all. The question is how he will manoeuvre when faced with the real threat of becoming the victim of both Israeli and Syrian ambitions and thus justify those sceptics who dismiss his state as an unviable, artificial creation. "Right now, only Israel is moving - by colonising the West Bank," he complained last week. "Soon, there will not be anything left to negotiate."

The King, who had summoned journalists to express his dismay at the outcome of the Israeli-US summit in Washington, explained his concern. If the no-war, no-peace deadlock continued, he argued, the Israeli colonisation would increase, and more Palestinians would emigrate across the river to the East Bank. Then Jordan, which already has a Palestinian majority estimated at 60 per cent of its population, would become a Palestinian state by osmosis.

Husain is acutely aware that the new Israeli prime minister, Yitzhak Shamir - whom he appears to distrust more than he did Mr Begin - is one of the foremost advocates along with Ariel Sharon, the former defence minister, of the slogan that "Jordan is Palestine." Because of the potential for division in his kingdom between east and west bankers, this Israeli claim is regarded as particularly dangerous.

Before the new unwritten military and political alliance between Israel and the US provoked such despondency in Jordan - where the king's aides claim that his interpretation of American intentions will finally decide his next move - hopes of a possible breakthrough had been raised in western embassies by his decision to recall the National Assembly, consisting equally of 30 deputies from each bank of the Jordan River, the parliament last set during the 1967 war. With only 46 members still alive, it is dangerously close to falling below its legal quorum of 40.

Although the king now likes to lay stress on the purely domestic reasons for the recall (expected next

April), there is no mistaking the international implications. Although no new elections could be ordered in the West Bank, it has the power to nominate members there to replace those who have died. If Israel was then to permit them to cross and take their seats, there is the chance they could form the nucleus of a West Bank/Jordanian negotiating team to talk peace with the Israelis.

Observers here see the recall - announced at a time when Mr Arafat's future looked even bleaker than it does now - as an attempt to give the king an insight into how various elements would react to any attempt of his to take up support of the West Bank, however indirectly. It has upset some members of the PLO and prompted government officials to circulate the assurance that the king would still make no move on behalf of west bankers without at least the tacit approval of Mr Arafat's PLO camp. The PLO men recalled that the parliament was only suspended formally in 1974, after the Rabat summit agreed that the PLO should be the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Last week, President Reagan repeated an earlier pledge to the king that if Jordan and the Palestinians would agree to enter talks, the US would press Israel to halt its settlement activity.

This remains the greatest barrier to any break in the present log-jam, with the problem of who would make concessions first. The Israeli government will not consider a settlement freeze before the king comes to the negotiating table on the basis of the Camp David agreement. Husain insists he could not make such a fundamental move without securing such a freeze. "It is not a situation which encourages optimism," said one official with uncharacteristic understatement.

Although the basic problems of securing a breakthrough have been in existence since President Reagan launched his initiative on September 1, 1982, they have become much more urgent by the region's worsening security situation. Apart from the threat from Syria and Israel, Husain confided last week that he is also deeply concerned about the polarization of the Arab world, and the rising tide of militant Islamic fundamentalism. He believes that if Iraq was ever overwhelmed by Iran, the stage could be set for revolution in a number of conservative Arab states - including his own.

To counter what he regards as the negative influence of Syria and Libya, Husain is now pressing for decisions at future Arab summits to be taken by majority vote rather than unanimously, a procedure which has given disproportionate "spoiling power" to the rejectionists. But the siege atmosphere in Amman provides an ominous reminder of the pitfalls he faces. As one senior diplomat remarked pessimistically, "unless Syria was to turn in on itself for a few years as the result of a protracted power struggle, it is harder than ever now to speak realistically about the chances of a comprehensive Middle East peace."

Phillip Whitehead

# When the law calls out the pickets

Productivity, innovation, job-sharing - these are the keywords of an industrial society traumatized by its recent past. We all agree with them, until the face in the space is our own. Could someone else surpass our skills, supplant our position? No, they must mean the other fellow. He is restrictive, greedy, incompetent; we are proven, conscientious, and qualified.

Unfortunately these judgments in the court of public opinion are seldom even-handed. Some restrictive practices are fully scrutinized. Others are not. This is why trade unions have become accustomed to hearing themselves analysed as part of the problem, rather than as part of the solution. In recent weeks this has been the fate of the NGA.

The warfare at Warrington has intensified it. Small wars are often surrogate struggles by greater powers, and so it is here. Mr Eddie Shah's combative instincts and portable winning-post have been recruited by backers who are eager to hold his coat in a tussle with the NGA. Employers who want a test case to prove that the new anti-union laws can really bite join newspaper publishers searching for a provincial cowboy who would undertake the shoot-out with the NGA which Fleet Street shuns. The Warrington pickets, too, have been swollen by many non-printers eager to have a confrontation on the streets with an unpopular law. It is all too easy to lose sight of what was originally involved, had faith as well as bad law.

Free sheets have been an extraordinary growth area in the last decade, often using new technology faster and better than the established provincial press. I have no animus against them, and write a weekly column myself in one of the most successful. The Derby Trader, it has created more than a hundred new jobs in journalism, sales, and printing, and provided a haven for some of the refugees from T. Bailey Forman, the Nottingham anti-union group. You begin to see, in such an enterprise, how the traditional demarcations of the press might erode, with the printers reaching out from their traditional sphere, just as others overlap them.

No trade unionist in the press is in any doubt what the non-union plant is all about. Mr Christopher Pole-Carew of T. Bailey Forman split it out with brutal clarity in 1979 when he said: "I have always done my best to humiliate and discredit union officials". No partnership in new technology for them.

What, after all, are the printers offered? They see a succession of pundits on television who tell them, smugly, that the new technology offers them nothing but lost jobs. Single keyboarding means no printers. Other hands will be at the terminals, as they already are at T. Bailey Forman. That is not the olive branch of job-sharing. It is the blunt instrument of job loss. When the

matter comes into dispute, unions then find the only weapon they have - itself a blunt instrument - blocked by the court's restraint upon their action.

This will provoke in many an editorial department the response, so much the better. The sins of the godfathers in the print are being visited on the next generation. Ironically, it is in Fleet Street, where their power and practices are strongest, that the printers have to set up in type the most vehement editorial criticism of themselves. They have been described as a selfish, overpaid cartel, clinging to a monopoly over an activity which others without their particular skills could do more quickly and cheaply.

They reflect that it is their misfortune to be born on the wrong side of the tracks. For when they are hauled into court, justice is meted out to them by representatives of the biggest closed shop in Britain - the legal profession. How does it set an example to the printers? We have seen the answer this month when a cherished monopoly of solicitors has been threatened by Mr Austin Mitchell's House Buyers Bill. Because the Bill allows limited access to conveyancing on properties covered by compulsory registration for banks, building societies and licensed conveyancers, the Law Society has determined to kill it. The flying pickets have set off from Chancery Lane for the House of Commons.

The Law Society, which was accused this week of scandalous malpractice by one of its own council members, is vigorous in its assertion that standards will lapse if the solicitors' monopoly is breached. It was rightly rebuked by the New Law Journal, which referred it to Sir Gordon Borrie's recent charge that the professions have "sought to create for themselves greater monopoly rights than can be justified". That monopoly, which leads to slackness, unjustified expense, and incompetence, as any MP who has tried to find a solicitor for a harassed and needy constituent can testify.

Solicitors will be outraged by any comparison with print workers. After all they do not set out to challenge the law, they merely interpret it. To which the NGA men may reply that a profession which has its own pin-striped pickets on permanent watch at Westminster is well able to keep its traditional preserves intact.

But if we are to get rid of demarcations and ancient monopolies in the print it is not likely if we operate with the rhetoric of destruction and division. If you doubt this, try telling Mr Mitchell's Bill to your local solicitor on the basis that his outdated and restrictive practice will now have to accept its own extinction with equanimity.

The author was formerly Labour MP for Derby North.

Jock Bruce-Gardyne

# Must we catch the Airbus?

"I do not", the Prime Minister told the Commons the other day, "want another Concorde on my hands. The remark, one gathers, was widely seen in aircraft-making circles as in doubly bad taste. For it not only knocked a great Anglo-French technological breakthrough of the present; it also came perilously close to knocking by association another one of the future - the Airbus 320."

Yet perhaps the Prime Minister had a point. For Concorde is an instructive story. It all started in the 1950s, when research at the Royal Aeronautical Establishment at Farnborough proved that it was technically possible to build a supersonic commercial carrier. Unfortunately what it also showed was that such a vehicle would guzzle so much fuel and carry so few passengers that no one was likely to buy it. But at that point Whitehead took a hand.

The government, in the person of Mr Duncan Sandys (as he then was) was anxious to secure a merger of British aircraft manufacturers, needed a dowry to offer to the reluctant suitors, and support for Concorde fitted the bill. Since it was felt we couldn't manage it all on our own, a partner had to be found. The United States was the preferred partner, but as the Americans declined to play, we had to fall back on the French.

The prime minister of the day, Mr Harold Macmillan, laid down that the aircraft manufacturers would have to match the public contribution pound for pound. This in the event, the manufacturers declined to do; as by then the leading airlines had made it clear they saw no prospect of having the cash to buy the product, their reluctance was understandable. So the condition was obligingly forgotten.

The wretched cheese-parers at the Treasury did not stand a chance. Supersonic travel was "the wave of the future"; if we opted out we might as well get out of aircraft-making altogether; the Americans were knocking Concorde because they wanted the market for themselves; the airlines were just playing hard to get - when Concorde rolled into service they would all have to buy it; last - but not least - here was a chance to prove our "Europeanness" and persuade de Gaulle to unlock our attempt to join his Common Market. Besides, Mr Macmillan's instinct was that the Treasury was always wrong - and the bigger the project, the bigger its error.

Yet when, years later, Mr Macmillan came to write his six-volume memoirs, Concorde did not rate a mention. Which is not

altogether surprising. For while today Concorde fits to be sold and ease the journey of super-first-class executives across the North Atlantic, and even make a profit for British Airways, we are told the entire research and development costs of more than £1,000m have been written off with not a single true commercial sale to show for them. And one month after the Cabinet had decided to embark on this marvel of state entrepreneurship, de Gaulle imposed his veto on our first attempt to join the Euroclub. Perhaps the wretched Treasury had it right for once.

I have no idea how the Treasury today rates the Airbus 320, but at a rough guess I would say not highly. It is true that the prospective worldwide market for an aircraft of the 320 type looks a good deal less imaginative than the one originally dreamed up for Concorde. But in other respects the arguments sound painfully familiar. Once again we are told that if we "opt out" of the Airbus we might as well get out of aircraft manufacture altogether; we are told that the Americans want the market for themselves.

Once again all the front-end cash is to be extracted from the long-suffering taxpayer (oh yes, on this occasion the industry is promising to come in later - but as we found with Concorde, once embarked the taxpayer will find it mighty hard to get off whatever happens). Once again we are told we must prove our "Europeanness". And once again the one thing nobody ventures to tell us is what return we could hope to get from our investment - or when.

Capital investment is all the rage. Rather like the pigs in *Animal Farm*, we all go round repeating "current spending bad, capital spending good"; and only the benighted Treasury can see the difference. Yet sometimes the thought occurs that if we had not, over the years, "invested" billions in so-called launch aid for the aircraft industry, with only one of those investments ever generating a commercial return, and left the cash for individual citizens to be spent as they pleased, we might be more competitive today.

With a project of this importance, Norman Lamont, Minister of State for Industry, explained last week, "it is necessary for us to be sure that the organization will be equal to the challenges it faces and is able to push with the maximum efficiency and cost-consciousness."

Yes indeed. But could we not - just this once - also try to satisfy ourselves that we will get our cash back, with interest?

# An Amen to end all Amens

I have heard the tribal chant go up at Cardiff Arms Park and I have heard the 5,000 assembled delegates at the national conference of Women's Institutes wade into "Jerusalem". But I have never heard a noise to compare with the one we make at the Albert Hall every year when Sir David Willcocks leads us into the Hallelujah Chorus. They call it the "Messiah from Scratch", which implies that we have never sung together before, but after 10 years the pretence is wearing thin: how much longer can we go on meeting like this?

It is without doubt the most eccentric event in the musical calendar. That it is celebrating its tenth anniversary tomorrow evening, sold out months in advance, brought to order by no less a baton than Sir David Willcocks, Director of the Royal College of Music, and yet again without rival the loudest Messiah in the market, is a triumph of improbability over probability. Whether it is also music is a question that censorious critics might shake their heads over. But we know that 4,200 choristers can't be wrong; or if we do go wrong, Sir David will put us back on the rails again.

It all began with the Tuesday Partnership, a national organization set up 11 years ago in a spirit of impudence by two young scientists at Imperial College, drinking minestrone in a Kensington Italian restaurant. Eventually there will be a blue plaque at the spot.

The Partners, David Burgess and Donald Monro, were amateur musicians and organizers of musical events. They had recently set up a performance of *Messiah* by a local choir in which the choir had been summoned for rehearsal on the wrong day, and had been forced to perform unrehearsed. Contrary to expectations, it went decidedly well.

Considering the implications, the Partnership extrapolated the case on the largest possible scale. Envisage a choir totally unknown to each other - just anyone turning up who wanted to have a go... envisage an orchestra assembled on the same basis... envisage enough of them to fill the Albert Hall... scarcely pausing to settle the bill, the Partnership ran down the road to the Hall and put forward their proposition.

So much for the broad-mindedness of the Hall that instead of sending urgently for an ambulance and two stretcher-jackets it received them with impulsive courtesy. With minimal palaver the booking was accepted. Soloists were chosen, leaders handed out to the queues at the next summer's Proms, and long before the day the Hall was effectively sold out, as it has been every Christmas ever since.



Sir David Willcocks: "If only Handel could be with us..."

So it was, children, that Daddy came to sing at the Albert Hall; and you too. It is one of those modern mass assaults on a visible summit of enterprise, like the London Marathon. We have never walked the boards of the Old Vic, been hung at Burlington House or been short listed for the Booker, but our existence has not been all obscurity.

The idea caught on extraordinarily. Before long, Easter performances of other works were introduced: it is to be Mozart's *Requiem* next year. Many faithful singers have come every year since 1974, some from distant parts of the country at considerable cost. There are even regular group bookings from abroad, and it is not unusual to see coach-parties from Holland or Scandinavia. This year one party of about 60 is coming from Denmark.

It would be easy to fill the entire Hall with a ring of singers, if it were not for Sir David's very natural objection to having tiers of basses bellowing down the back of his neck, and the risk of actually dislodging the roof with the din. In fact, about two thirds of the Hall are singers, the rest friends. The average booking is for eight or 10 seats, indicating contingents from organized choirs who sing together for the rest of the year and do not embark on an expedition like this without taking care to get into condition first.

One of the Partners, Gavin Park, who conducted for the first five years, died this summer a few weeks after playing cello in the orchestra for last Easter's Scratch Verdi Requiem. The administrative labour of leading the Albert Hall to almost brim twice a year still falls almost entirely on Professor Burgess, Dr Monro, and Professor Burgess's wife

Susan, who sings alto and does most of the paperwork. "The attraction lies in sheer scale, and in the glamour of a very special place," says David Burgess. The musical standard keeps getting higher, he insists. "A lot of people have grown up with us - they started coming when they were about 10, and some of them are professional musicians now." Brass and wind players are asked for details of their experience, but the strings are open to anybody who wants to play.

"Some very good soloists apply, because it's a good shop window", Sir David Willcocks says. "There are representatives of so many choirs there that there is a good chance of other engagements. Some of the orchestra don't play every note, but they wouldn't come if they weren't getting pleasure from it. Luckily I don't hear some of the things going on in the distance."

But is it serious music-making? "It's a fun occasion - I don't mean in the realms of comedy. If Handel could be with us now he'd be delighted he was giving so many people pleasure. Nobody loves more than I do doing it really well, perhaps with an all-male choir. But the two can exist side by side, and I enjoy this too."

At least the mighty juggernaut has never yet jolted to a halt, and Sir David keeps the tempi masterfully brisk. The spectacularly brilliant pieces like "Worship is the Lamb" are less at risk of careering off the tracks than subtler pieces like "Behold the lamb of God" or "And with his stripes".

Still more alarming are the two points in the work (in the last moments of the Hallelujah Chorus and of the great Amen) where there

is a void, a Black Hole, into which the entire choir, orchestra, audience, nay, the Albert Hall itself, are drawn with irresistible gravitational force, to be expelled a moment later, astronomically reinforced in decibel power, in a different universe, identical only in its superficial aspects with the one they have just vacated. The effect only succeeds fully, of course, if the silence at the centre of the tornado is total.

We are not perfect, I admit. In that vast assembly there is always someone (always in my recollection a bass) who counts wrong and launches out into that apocalyptic silence with all the fervour that was appropriate, indeed obligatory, a moment before. In that great space, he sounds hardly louder than the humming of a gnat; but at that moment even a gnat's whisper would be a disturbance.

A few seconds later, the number (and if it is the "Amen", the whole gigantic enterprise) is over, and the multitude sinks back gasping, mopping its 4,200 brows, applauding itself wholeheartedly, too much exhilarated to spare censure, or even a thought, for that one abject scapegoat of the general triumph. But he knows who he is and what he has done.

The custom is that he waits until the applause has died down and the choir begins to shuffle on overcoats and extricate themselves from that peculiarly hard and narrow seating built for hard and narrow Victorians. Then he departs into the night and quietly garottes himself with a collapsible music-stand somewhere behind the Albert Memorial. Listen tomorrow: you'll hear him. God grant that this year he isn't me.

George Hill





P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

## NO FURTHER ON

The failure of the Athens summit is one of the most serious setbacks the European Community has ever had. First of all it was an exhibition of extraordinary ineptitude. After months of preparation and private contact among ministers and officials the government leaders proceed with ceremony to Athens to face what everyone knows to be crucial decisions on the future of the Community. Thereupon they suddenly discover that they cannot agree on anything and depart in disarray looking ridiculous. This is not the service that taxpayers have a right to expect for their money. Nor does it inspire confidence in the Community. With modern means of communication such surprises should be avoidable.

A small part of the blame must fall on the Greeks, whose inexperience in Community affairs made for a less than forceful presidency over the past six months, and somewhat inadequate handling of such an important summit. Another part of the blame must fall on Herr Kohl, who appeared ill-informed and unfamiliar with positions prepared by his own ministers, who had differences among themselves.

The largest share of responsibility must be borne by M. Mitterrand, who suddenly abandoned positions which had been regarded as holding the key to compromise. Only recently, the French proposed changes in budgetary procedures that would match spending to funds instead of funds to spending, thereby imposing spending limits of the

sort desired by Britain and other members, especially on agriculture. Mrs Thatcher also thought she had support for the principle that budgetary contributions should be based on something better than temporary bargains, and preferably on each member's gross domestic product. West Germany would gain from this, as would France when it becomes another net contributor after enlargement of the Community. At Athens, however, M. Mitterrand suddenly went right back to his much earlier position that Britain's budgetary contributions must be dealt with on a temporary basis only.

Explanations for this bewildering turnabout will presumably emerge gradually. For the moment it looks as though M. Mitterrand was either not fully aware of what his own ministers were doing or not fully in control of their obvious disagreements. Or perhaps he feared being accused of selling out his own farmers just before next year's elections for the European parliament. But there is also a possibility that the French would like the turning point in the Community's history to take place under the French presidency next year, in which case we have witnessed merely a tactical diversion.

Should Britain also share some of the blame? The French press is already saying it should. Certainly Mrs Thatcher has held very firmly to the position that Britain will agree to higher revenues for the Community only if budgetary arrangements

are reformed and spending on agriculture is brought under control. It is against the tradition of Community negotiation, or indeed of diplomacy in general, to place a final position on the table at the outset but at least it makes for clarity, and Mrs Thatcher has been fortified in her resolve by the knowledge that she is in a strong position, since the Community will go bankrupt without agreement on financing. She also knows - and believes others know - that she is acting in the best long-term interests of the Community, since it cannot develop further without reforms of the type she is suggesting. But this attitude obviously does not endear her to fellow Europeans, even if many of them know in their hearts that she is right.

She may now be tempted to sit back and wait for the others to come round but she would be wiser to take a more active and conciliatory line while sticking to the essence of her conditions. A road accident of the type which has just taken place in Athens leaves everyone shaken and liable to last out at others. Some calm mopping up and bandaging is required, and an attempt at optimism. After all, the Community has had crises and deadlocks before, most notably at the Dublin summit. Often it needs a real crisis to generate energy and sense of urgency. This time it is facing the need for much more fundamental change than usual, so it may need a stronger dose of shock treatment. With a bit of luck, Athens could turn out to have provided it.

## STILL A VITAL ROLE TO PLAY

The apparent slide towards war between American and Syrian forces in Lebanon has led to calls, in Parliament and elsewhere, for the withdrawal of the British contingent from that country. That is understandable, but in present circumstances it is wrong.

It is understandable because the British and American contingents are parts of the same multinational force (MNF) and because, whatever the British troops went there for, it was not to go to war with Syria. Indeed, the agreement between the British and Lebanese governments under which the British contingent was sent states explicitly: "In carrying out its duties, the British Force will not engage in hostilities or other operations of a warlike nature."

The fact is, however, that so far the British force has not been engaged in hostilities and has not been asked to. Nor, for that matter, has anyone engaged in hostilities against it. Were that to happen it could, under the agreement, "exercise the right of self-defence" which is what the Americans claim to have been doing.

The Americans and the French have both come under attack and have both exercised the right of self-defence, interpreting it rather more broadly than their partners in the force would like. Both have been placed in an invidious position by the resurfacing of bitter

internal conflicts within Lebanon which, at the time when the MNF went in, seemed to have been softened by the common Lebanese desire to reassert national sovereignty and end foreign occupation. In these internal conflicts the Lebanese government and army have been identified with one side, the side favouring continued Maronite predominance in the state.

To some extent that affects the whole of the MNF, since all four contingents are there at the government's invitation "to assist the Lebanese Government and the Lebanese Armed Forces in the Beirut area". But the French and the Americans are more directly affected: the French because of their historic associations with the Maronite community, the Americans because of their active involvement in rebuilding and retraining the Lebanese army. The American presence has lately acquired an even more partisan flavour, first through official statements portraying events in Lebanon as part of a wider east-west conflict and secondly through last week's strategic agreement with Israel.

The Americans went beyond mere self-defence in September, in the view not only of their allies but of their own diplomats and commanders on the spot, when they used naval bombardment to support the Lebanese army in its defence of Souk al-Gharb. Since then their re-

connaisance flights have gone far beyond the Beirut area. (It can be argued that this was necessary to secure their men in Beirut against shelling from the hills, though in practice it has not succeeded in doing that.)

But the MNF is not an integrated force under a single command, and none of this has so far affected the British or Italian contingents. The job which these contingents are doing is so far appreciated by almost all parties in Lebanon. The Italians have been protecting the surviving inhabitants of the Sabra-Chatila camp. It should not be forgotten that the massacre there was the result of the MNF's premature withdrawal in September, 1982, and so also the moral and political justification for its present mandate.

The British, coming late and in small numbers, have none the less played a valuable role in providing security for meetings of the Ceasefire Commission. Britain has historic ties of friendship with the Druze community, in whose eyes the British presence does something to balance that of the traditionally pro-Maronite French. The withdrawal of the British and Italian contingents would leave behind a force not only less multinational but short of any credible peacekeeping capacity. It would be regretted by the great majority of Lebanese of all communities.

## SURGERY AT THE FRONTIER

It is still in doubt as we write whether Mr Lars Ljungberg will come through the first hours after yesterday's operation to transplant heart and lungs, and whether congratulations to his surgeons or condolences to his relatives are in order; or even both. Human and medical drama run so high on these occasions that it may appear induly cool even to raise the question whether it is right to expend such resources of skill and money in such almost desperate cases.

Mr Ljungberg is of course a private patient, with his costs raised by his neighbours in Sweden. He will not figure directly in the fusillades of statistics that pour between opposite forces in the debate over expenditure on health services - except possibly as a foreign exchange earner. But he unit where his operation was performed only survives because of a special Government subsidy for private support having dried up last year. If the Harfield unit closed, Mr Ljungberg might have gone elsewhere: for British NHS patients the chances might be bleak.

Hard cases make bad law, and rare treatments are an insecure basis for generalizations about health spending policy. It is estimated that only about ten people a year would benefit from his procedure even if it were fully established, so it will never impose a heavy overall burden

on resources. But such estimates rest on flexible assumptions: if it were established, we would face new dilemmas about the cases which would then become marginal candidates for treatment. Within realistic constraints, there can be no escape from painful decisions about whether or not to treat patients who might be saved and would prefer to be. One patient's provision is another's deprivation, and objective criteria for judging what is most humane do not exist. Many doctors feel uneasy that society offers them so few ground-rules for assessing priorities.

Yesterday's operation, with its use of two surgical teams, must have been even more expensive than the heart transplants which are becoming almost a familiar thing these days. There is some artificiality about putting a price on one operation, whose marginal cost is only a small part of that of running a specialized unit for similar work. The sum raised on Mr Ljungberg's behalf is roughly twice the price of a kidney transplant, four times the annual cost of a hospital geriatric bed - or a tenth of the cost of a heart transplant in the USA. The entire special subsidy to the two special heart units represents about one four-hundredth of what the NHS spends on phone bills and postage each year.

It may be hard to get any sense out of such figures, but the attempt to make judgments about cost-effectiveness has to be

made. An official study of the British heart transplant programme is under way, and is reported to have found that the average gain in life expectancy is small, in spite of individual successes like Mr Keith Castle (a French survivor recently celebrated fifteen years with his second heart). The same sum transferred to the kidney transplant programme would probably add years to more lives, though it would be too small to ease materially the acute dilemmas in that part of the service.

It is fair to make some allowance in these calculations for the profession's need to experiment and excel: rightly or wrongly, a health service denied a measure of glamour would suffer in morale and eventually perhaps in quality. Knowledge gained through experiment can often be applied more widely. There is naturally a temptation to reach for more and more glamour, and more broadly to exalt the hospital at the expense of primary care. But more doctors than in the past understand that this needs to be resisted, and that some surgical triumphs have victims rather than beneficiaries. The NHS can afford a limited indulgence in experimental pyrotechnics, but its planners must never lose sight of the fact that what kills most of us, and darkens many lives long before death, is humdrum everyday disease requiring humdrum everyday treatment.

## Commonsense on civil defence

From the Minister of State for Home Affairs

Sir, In his article today (December 6) on civil defence Mr Duncan Campbell, on behalf of the GLC, presses for more information about the likely course of attack on these islands.

I have to tell Mr Campbell that we in the Home Office do not have nearly fled away the plans of attack of a potential enemy. Since we are not so fortunate we have to keep patiently explaining that an attack could take many forms, from a conventional strike to a full-scale nuclear attack. We shall continue to update our information on these possibilities and to give the fullest possible guidance to local authorities.

What we could not accept is the argument that because there are bound to be wide uncertainties local authorities are entitled to sit back and do nothing to carry out the requirements on civil defence which Parliament has laid upon them.

So long as we keep up our policy of defence, which we have maintained with our Nato allies, attack is unlikely. Against that background, Parliament has required local authorities to undertake some common sense civil defence duties, mainly planning and training. Of course, if the worst came to the worst, those who survived would turn out and help. Earlier planning and training could make such help effective in saving lives. That is what civil defence is about.

Yours faithfully,  
DOUGLAS HURD,  
Home Office,  
Queen Anne's Gate, SW1,  
December 6.

From the President and the Chairman of the National Council for Civil Defence

Sir, One more film depicting the horrors of nuclear attack on a city is about to be shown to the public (The Day After, independent television). There can be few people in this country who are still unaware of the terrible effects of nuclear weapons, so films of this kind do not "educate the public" but merely induce a sense of apathy and despair. They do not and cannot show the wider picture, that well-planned and resourced civil defence measures could save the lives of many millions of people outside the areas of direct attack.

Civil defence is not about the possession of nuclear weapons but about the hope of survival. There is always hope, but there are those who appear to have a vested interest in destroying that hope by their own attack on every effort, however small, put forward for the civil defence of our people. Let them demonstrate otherwise or look to their conscience.

It is reported that the Government have asked for "the right to reply" to the showing of this film. We in turn ask them to take this opportunity to declare publicly their own commitment to a strong civil defence for the people of Britain.

Our present 'CD resources are inadequate for a "conventional" attack and far below the level to meet the greater shock of a nuclear one. War is not yet imminent and there is still time to build up these resources as an insurance for our future survival, but time may one day run out.

Yours faithfully,  
NENTON, President,  
NEIL THORNE, Chairman,  
The National Council for Civil Defence,  
Cayzer House,  
21 St Mary Axe, EC3,  
December 5.

## Local democracy

From the Leader of West Yorkshire Metropolitan Council

Sir, Ronald Butt (November 24) rightly concludes that local influence should be rebuilt into local administration through the ballot box. This is a welcome conclusion which everyone in local government will entirely support.

Unfortunately it runs entirely contrary to the Government's present policies, which are to remove as many decisions as possible from the sphere of local influence and transfer them to Whitehall. In the most extreme case the metropolitan county councils and the GLC are to be abolished and their functions transferred to quangos and civil servants.

The justification for this is, as

## Competition in house purchase

From Lord Harris of High Cross

Sir, Conservative defenders of the solicitors' closed shop for conveyancing should ponder whether they really want to be classed in the public mind with NGA, Aslef and other arch-protectionists of sectional interests. The Law Society is behaving no more "professionally" than these more plebeian Luddites in justifying its monopoly on the pretext of preserving standards when its true effect is to inflate costs and prices by the age-old device of obstructing competition and innovation. Indeed, if Arthur Scargill were more consistent he would already have offered solicitors the professional services of his flying pickets.

My colleagues in the Lords non-party Repeal Group welcome wider discussion of the urgent need to get rid of all outdated restrictions. The difficulty borne out by our experience is that every restrictive practice is ruthlessly defended by entrenched interests. The House of Lords interest groups well armed against the sporadic, scattered forays of amateur consumers.

Thus, on the repeal of the Shops Act, we encountered determined resistance from USDAW (Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers) and the Retail Consortium. On the Truck Acts and wages it was the old trade union preservationists who always prefer "negotiation" (ie, endless waffle) to action this day. On the spectacles monopoly it was the myopic opticians' cartel that tried to blind us with special pleading.

The most plausible plea for the Law Society might be that it is unfair to pick on the solicitors' restrictive practices so long as other professional trade union racketeers are left intact. The solution is not for the Government to either affect neutrality, or even to take on the enemy one by one, but to throw their weight against all these privileged exemptions from the general rule of competition in the internal markets of all consumers.

Ministers might draw encouragement from the political wisdom of R. A. Butler, who wrote of his

radical renovation of education in 1944:

"We decided at the very outset to make reform as comprehensive as possible and if there were any parties to get a good bunch of them in our arms and not be stung by a little one. That policy has proved extremely successful... because the more parties you collect, the more they sting one another and the less they sting you."

Might not the Law Society be shamed out of protectionist rhetoric and lobbying if its members saw other practitioners of restrictionism being simultaneously forced, in the words of your leading article (December 6) to "make way for others"? At the same time, NGA, Aslef, NUJ, NUM, and the rest could console themselves that critics of the closed shop, demarcation, over-manning, are not picking only on them.

The plain truth is that we all stand to gain from a more consistent and comprehensive attack on these sclerotic symptoms of the British Disease.

Yours faithfully,  
RALPH HARRIS,  
As from: 2 Lord North Street, SW1,  
December 6.

From Mr Edwin R Lee  
Sir, On April 4, 1979, the Estate Agents Act received the Royal Assent. Its main provision, as in the House of Commons, was related to indemnity insurance cover for clients' money.

Some four and a half years later this provision has not been brought into force. This possibly reflects the reluctance of the insurance market to offer cover.

In the average sale and purchase the estate agent only handles the odd few hundred pounds whereas the conveyancer handles many tens of thousands. One hopes Messrs Mitchell, Tench and Borrie have done their homework with the insurance companies to provide the consumer of conveyancing services with the protection he needs.

Yours faithfully,  
EDWIN R. LEE,  
William Heath & Co, Solicitors,  
16 Sale Place,  
Sussex Gardens, W2.

## Rescue of old London

From Mr Ralph Merrifield

Sir, Following Andrew Selkirk's letter of November 25, I would like to explain the origins of the new archaeological service for Greater London.

The excavation and recording of archaeological evidence in London before its destruction by developers has long been the concern of two central societies - London and Middlesex Archaeological Society and Surrey Archaeological Society, which set up a joint working party to ensure cooperation in this field and to deal with problems as they arose.

Both societies have always encouraged amateur investigation, but became convinced that full-time archaeologists were essential if opportunities were not to be missed. Each undertook the employment of a small team, LAMAS operating in seven inner London boroughs north of the Thames, and SAS taking responsibility for the boroughs in south-west London that had formed part of the historic county of Surrey.

Outside the City, for which the Museum of London has always taken direct responsibility, other small teams of full-time archaeologists were employed by Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Committee and by Pastore Edwile Museum (east of the city). In addition, groups of experienced amateurs under professional leadership operated in Brentford and Bromley.

Archaeological cover for Greater London was therefore a patchwork in which there were more holes than patches. Nobody with any knowledge of urban rescue excavation would seriously suggest that these gaps could possibly be covered by

weekend workers from local archaeological societies.

The proposal by the GLC's Historic Buildings Division, more than two years ago, that in return for a substantial grant London's scattered archaeological services should be rationalized and extended to cover the whole of London, was therefore welcomed by the working party. The new scheme, under which the Museum of London became the employer of most full-time archaeologists working in London, began on April 1, 1983, and is clearly a great step forward. It will be tragic if it is now destroyed by the demise of the GLC.

Yours faithfully,  
RALPH MERRIFIELD (Chairman,  
Working Party on London  
Archaeology),  
32 Poplar Walk,  
Horne Hill, SE24.

## Sugar production

From Sir Robert Kirkwood

Sir, With CAP under review, consideration should be given to the social and economic propriety of the overproduction, and subsidised export, of sugar.

Raw sugar is the traditional export of a number of Third World countries. Sugar cane is one of the few crops which tropical areas can produce economically in bulk; it is also labour intensive.

To pledge assistance to backward countries, whilst subsidising competition in one of the oldest markets, is incomprehensible, even by CAP standards.

Yours faithfully,  
ROBERT KIRKWOOD,  
Three Kings,  
Sandwich, Kent.

Ronald Butt repeats, that the metropolitan councils are mostly "Marxist led". The weakness of the Government's case is confirmed by their need to rely upon such extraordinary accusations.

Let me say only that the Government has recently appointed me a member of the Audit Commission, a body designed to secure value for money in local government. Would it have appointed a Marxist to such a position? My colleague leaders of the other metropolitan county councils are equally in the mainstream of the Labour Party.

It is a matter for deep concern that this country casually tampers with local democracy without any thought for the consequences. The present proposals have been described by independent experts as

unworkable. Yet they are to be imposed without any study or cost benefit analysis of their consequences.

No other country in the western world tampers with its democratic institutions in such a casual fashion. If the changes contemplated by Ronald Butt were to be introduced in this country and accountability at the ballot box turned into a meaningless concept then the only way forward is through some public debate and discussion as to how it can be achieved - not the implementation of a snap promise in an election manifesto.

Yours sincerely,  
JOHN GUNNELL, Leader,  
West Yorkshire Metropolitan  
County Council,  
County Hall,  
Wakefield, West Yorkshire,  
November 25.

## Portuguese sovereignty

From the Minister Counsellor for Portugal

Sir, In The Times of November 11 your correspondent in Madrid mentioned that Portugal had "achieved" independence (from Spain) only in the seventeenth century.

May I remind you that the Kingdom of Portugal was formed in 1143. At that time Spain did not exist as a nation (it was formed by Ferdinand and Isabella in the fifteenth century) and a treaty of alliance between Portugal and England has existed since 1373.

For a period of sixty years, starting in 1580, the kingdoms of Portugal and Spain were under the same Hapsburg sovereigns, but in 1640 the purely Portuguese Braganca dynasty (who incidentally gave a queen to England) conquered and preserved power until the monarchy fell in 1910 and the present republic was established.

Yours faithfully,  
JOSE M. de MACEDO,  
Minister Counsellor,  
Portuguese Embassy,  
11 Belgrave Square, SW1,  
November 11.

## Way of the Cross

From Mr Anthony D. G. S. Earl-Williams

Sir, Your leading article "The way of the Cross" (November 21) is intrinsically sound. It ill behoves some Protestant leaders to attack you as they have when their own religion was founded upon private interpretation of holy scripture and the individual conscience of each believer.

Catholics understand only too well the difference between private faith (which men indeed do have, for without it they believe nothing) and the living, sacramental community of the Church, with its ex-cathedra authority.

The attempt by many to fuse Christianity with left-wing politics is not only dishonourable; it is theologically disordered, yet, Sir, explains why your sensible leading article has been so disfavouredly received.

Yours sincerely,  
ANTHONY D. G. S. EARL-WILLIAMS,  
52 Parliament Hill,  
Hampstead, NW3,  
November 26.

## Fresh look at Calke Abbey

From the Chairman of the National Heritage Memorial Fund

Sir, Mrs Currie (December 5) criticizes the trustees of the National Heritage Memorial Fund over Calke Abbey. I hope you will allow me the space to explain the attitude of the trustees.

Calke Abbey and its fate have weighed heavily on our minds for many months. In June this year we considered a request from the National Trust for very substantial grants in respect of both Calke Abbey and Belton House. As far as Calke was concerned, it was explained that the approach was necessary because the Department of the Environment had refused to accept certain "non-heritage" land in lieu of capital tax, which could have been used to provide an endowment.

We had visited both Calke and Belton and, after much deliberation, informed the National Trust that although we felt both properties to be of great importance to the national heritage and that both ought to be saved, we had sufficient resources to help only one of them.

Having been put into the position of having to make a choice, we chose Belton; bearing in mind that Belton was already on the open market for sale, we really had very little room for choice. Indeed, the National Trust had already told us that they regarded Belton as the more urgent priority. The assistance promised in respect of Belton at the time represented almost 40 per cent of our uncommitted resources.

Our responsibilities extend wider than simply English historic houses and their contents. There are historic houses in other parts of the United Kingdom, paintings and other works of art, areas of land of scenic and scientific interest, all of which have a call on our funds. We have indeed wide responsibilities and relatively slender resources. Moreover, we have no idea what future funding we shall receive from Government.

To date, the National Heritage Memorial Fund has been invited to consider contributing to one solution only for Calke Abbey. Are there any other ways to save Calke? Is this not a case when a wider partnership of interests, including Government, National Trust, Historic Buildings Council, local authorities, the Harpur-Crewe trustees, as well as ourselves, could achieve the objective which all your correspondents are seeking? For our part, and within our available resources, we are ready to consider any possibilities. Yours faithfully,  
CHARLES OF AMISFIELD,  
Chairman, National Heritage Memorial Fund,  
Church House,  
Great Smith Street, SW1,  
December 6.

From Mr Patrick Cormack, MP for Staffordshire South (Conservative)

Sir, My colleague Edwina Currie (December 5) is right to deplore the likely, and totally unnecessary, loss of Calke Abbey. I visited this quite remarkable "time capsule" of a house with her in August, and I am sure she will forgive me if I say that she underestimates its value. In its way Calke is, I believe, as important as the Mary Rose.

As Mrs Currie makes clear, a solution could be found but she is, I think, uncharacteristically unfair in castigating the National Trust and the National Heritage Memorial Fund as well as the Government.

Neither the trust, which is an independent charity, nor the fund, set up by Government to help safeguard the heritage, can do what is necessary unless the Treasury allows ministers at the Department of the Environment to display the sensitivity they must surely possess.

It is not too late for the Chancellor to show he is not a philistine, but it soon will be.

Yours faithfully,  
PATRICK CORMACK, (Chairman,  
All Party Arts and Heritage Group),  
House of Commons,  
December 5.

## Carlisle-Settle line

From Mrs Olive Clarke

Sir, In the interests of accuracy, and for the benefit of prospective objectors to the proposed closure by British Rail of the Carlisle-Settle line, and consequently the stations at Appleby and Settle, may I draw your attention to the article by Alan Whitehouse in your paper (November 17).

The Settle-Carlisle line, as its name denotes, runs between these towns and therefore passes through the area of not one, but two Transport Users' Consultative Committees - those of Yorkshire and of the North-west, both of which will be responsible for the receipt of objections at the appropriate time and for the arrangement of public hearings.

Yours faithfully,  
OLIVE CLARKE, Chairman,  
North-west Transport Users' Consultative Committee,  
Room 308,  
Royal Exchange,  
Cross Street,  
Manchester,  
December 2.

## Indigestible

From the Rev Dr Gordon Huelin

Sir: Much is heard nowadays of the commercialization of Christmas, and an advertisement in today's Times (December 5) makes one feel that we have reached a new level in this trend. A Christmas menu called the "Twelve Days of Christmas", starting on December 12 is it possible to go any further?

Yours faithfully,  
GORDON HUELIN,  
Department of Christian Doctrine and History,  
King's College London,  
Strand, WC2,  
December 5.







## FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

## Odds are even on a new bid for P &amp; O

Inevitably most of the audience will see Trafalgar House's preliminary figures for the year to end September as a curtain raiser for the "The Battle for P & O", a three act drama starring Mr Nigel Brookes and Mr Jeffrey Sterling, with the part that would once have been played by the old actor manager, Lord Matthews, taken by Mr Eric Parker, his successor as Trafalgar's chief executive.

The figures deserve a better billing than that, however predictable they may appear. Profit before taxation has risen 20 per cent from £65.6m to £79m and the dividend is increased by 18 per cent from 7.2p to 8.5p a share. And there is at least a chance that the P & O will be abandoned.

They will tell you at the box office that Trafalgar withdrew its five - for - four share bid for P & O in June when it was referred to the Monopolies Commission. Mr Brookes will spend 10 days relaxing in the sun at the start of 1984. He is "75 per cent certain" that shortly after he returns, relaxed and ready to discover that Mr Norman Tebbit, the Secretary for Trade and Industry, has no intention of standing in Trafalgar's way should it wish to bid again for P & O. Whether Trafalgar will bid again, "I honestly don't know", Mr Brookes told me yesterday.

"Our own profit projections have advanced further since last May, when we came forward with our first offer, and we could say 'thank you very much, we don't want it any more.' It is a 50 per cent probability."

It is easy to accuse Mr Brookes of trying to talk down the P & O share price. This has benefited not only from the belief that Trafalgar's five-for-four offer was merely an opener, but also from the advent of Mr Jeffrey Sterling as chairman of P & O with a brief to keep the company independent or, failing that, to make Trafalgar pay a high price for its audacious presumption.

Few men can teach Mr Brookes, or indeed Mr Sterling, new market tricks but one reason for Mr Brookes's success and durability is the care he takes not to get into situations where withdrawal should cost him face or Trafalgar money.

The industrial advantages to Trafalgar of acquiring P & O remain as compelling as before. P & O represents five important acquisitions at one blow in areas - cargo shipping, cruising, construction, housing,



Nigel Brookes (left) and Eric Parker - Trafalgar's double act in the drama.

property - where Trafalgar is strong and capably managed.

Under Trafalgar's existing management P & O might be made to yield, through rationalization, an extra £20m in profit, beyond the £40m-£50m Mr Sterling and the P & O board would probably project if they were called on to repel a fresh Trafalgar assault.

The logic, for both companies, of putting together the Cunard and P & O passenger fleets, is high irresistible. The value for the future of the British merchant fleet of letting Trafalgar-P & O become the catalyst of change is inestimable.

Yet, having said all that, I believe Mr Brookes is quite capable of walking away from P & O. Analysts seeking to quantify his revised "projections" of Trafalgar's profits are likely to come up with a figure for the current year around £95m. Taking a line through that and my earlier estimates for P & O profits and potential savings in a merger, I can see why Trafalgar might not wish to be pushed into bidding more than its original five-for-four.

"If we walked away," Mr Brookes wryly observed, "Jeffrey Sterling would have the most frightful headache. There is no downside for us and no virility symbol at stake. For Jeffrey it would be a bit trickier. He would be faced with a repeat of his 10 years' hard labour at Town & City, with the only certainty a repetition of his mistakes."

## Rivals in the ring for Trident

Mr Gwyn Ward Thomas, founder of Trident Television, returns from abroad tomorrow. It was looking less likely last night that his management buyout for parts of Trident would succeed.

Negotiations with others over the future of the three companies which no longer fit in a casino and television operation, under Lord Hanson as chairman, are at an advanced stage. Mr Ward Thomas thought at one point his talks were too. Last week, only shareholder approval - the directors speak for 27 per cent of the company - stood between him and buying £1.8m worth of assets for £791,000 down and £1m in five, maybe 10 years' time.

But less than 24 hours before the deal was to be approved, Lord Hanson rang Mr Ward Thomas to tell him that rival offers

were being considered. The shareholders' meeting was adjourned.

Mr Ward Thomas's deal was to buy Windsor Safari Park, scenery makers Watts & Conn and the rights to Trident Films.

The deal looked good for Ward Thomas Holdings. The £1m deferred payment may be extended for a decade in exchange for rights to half the increased value of the 130-acre Safari Park land, should planning consent change.

The appearance of the rivals casts a doubt over the future chairmanship of Trident. It is unlikely that Lord Hanson, ready to take over as chairman, will step aside. In that case Mr Ward Thomas might feel that having lost the management buyout, £83,000 was insufficient recompense for his service contract.

## Yamani backs stable oil price as Iran pushes for \$6 rise

From David Young, Energy Correspondent, Geneva

The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries is not expected to make any changes in oil prices or production quotas at its meeting in Geneva today, Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, the Saudi Arabian oil minister, said yesterday.

Speaking on his arrival at the first full ministerial meeting of Opec since its unprecedented \$5 a barrel price cut in March, Sheikh Yamani said that he expected Opec to stick to the agreement that had already helped to restore stability to the world oil market.

Opec's four-man market monitoring committee, which met yesterday to review recent trends in the oil market, is also recommending that prices and

production quotas be left unchanged. Sheikh Yamani said that the meeting was going to be a "quiet one", and ministers from other leading moderate Opec members, including Indonesia and the United Arab Emirates, also said they expected the meeting to leave the price and production agreement unchanged.

The maintenance of the status quo will however be strongly opposed by the Iranian delegation, which is still insisting that it was an increase of \$5 or even \$6 a barrel in the \$29-a-barrel reference price. Iran also wants to increase its output.

The monitoring committee was presented with a gloomy picture of the recent, renewed

downward pressure on world oil prices. Spot market trading has come almost to a standstill as oil companies and traders wait to see how Opec reacts to what observers regard as a critical new test of the oil producer's ability to maintain its pricing regime.

Dr Mana Said al-Otaiba, oil minister of the United Arab Emirates, and chairman of the monitoring committee, said Opec's production was running slightly above the 17.5-million-barrel-a-day ceiling set in March, but neither he nor other ministers would say by how much.

Dr Otaiba reported to the committee on his meeting on Monday with Mr Peter Walker, Britain's Secretary of State for Energy, at which he expressed

Opec's concern about the increasing level of North Sea production.

He said that he did not expect Britain to cut its production. "We understand the British position and they understand our position in Opec. We are all in the same boat."

Opec says North Sea oil production, is running 300,000 barrels a year above what it had regarded as assurances given by the Department of Energy.

Indonesia's oil minister Dr Subroto, said he supported extending the Opec production ceiling until the end of the first quarter of next year, despite calls by Algeria and Venezuela for it to be lowered. Several of Opec's 13 members have been pressing for higher individual quotas.

## US workers want steel deal blocked

From Bailey Morris Washington

America's largest steel union has vowed to continue its campaign to thwart the proposed joint venture between the British and US Steel corporations.

It has announced its intentions in a nationwide newspaper campaign following the death of its president who had been vehemently opposed to the collaboration. Full-page advertisements in more than 150 newspapers yesterday, the steelworkers promised to use every resource to defeat the venture which they claim is not in the public interest because it violates a voluntary import agreement with the European Community.

"To me the preceding his untimely death United Steelworkers of America president Lloyd McBride dedicated himself and the resources of our union to defeat this scheme. We who follow him will continue the fight," the advertisement read.

A spokesman for the union told *The Times* that the steelworkers have been given assurances that both Congress and the Reagan Administration are in agreement that the venture would violate the US carbon steel agreement with the EEC.

It is likely Congress will take action when it returns in January on several proposed Bills that would further limit the amount of steel which can be exported to US markets.

It is possible that if a quota Bill is passed, it will be so with an amendment prohibiting the British Steel venture with US steel, a Congressional aide said.

The steelworkers drew attention yesterday to the growing Congressional support for tougher restrictions on imported steel. Their advertisement noted that more than 100 members of the house had sponsored a resolution opposing the British Steel venture.

Their action coincided with a related campaign by some of America's largest steel companies for tougher restrictions on imported steel from the Third World and Europe.

## Money supply stays within target range

By Frances Williams Economics Correspondent

Money supply growth slowed last month, leaving the main measure of money firmly within its permitted range and bringing the other two measures closer to the Treasury's target.

Provisional estimates by the Bank of England show that all three measures grew by 0.5 to 0.75 per cent in the four weeks to mid-November, after a sharp increase in October.

The most closely watched, sterling M3, has now grown at an annual rate of 10.5 per cent since February, compared with the Government's target range of 7 to 11 per cent, while narrow money, M1, and broader private sector liquidity, PSL2, are on track to come within target by next spring.

But there seems little prospect of an early fall in interest rates, a view reinforced by sterling's steady performance on world currency markets.

Despite some easing of the dollar from record levels reached on Monday and early yesterday, the pound weakened against most other currencies, losing 0.3 on its trade-weighted index to finish at 82.8.

Yesterday's pause in the dollar's latest surge is expected to be only temporary. Despite the remarks of Mr Paul Volcker, chairman of the US Federal Reserve Board, on Monday that the Fed's credit stance remained unchanged the markets expect American interest rates to stay

## MONEY GROWTH

	Nov 83	Feb-Nov 83 at annual rate %
M1	1/2-1/2	12
M3	1/2-1/2	10 1/2
PSL2	1/2-1/2	12 1/2

Target range Feb '83-Apr '84 7-11  
Source: Bank of England

at high levels, underpinned by the booming economy and swollen budget deficit. Political tensions in the Lebanon and over the nuclear missiles issue have boosted the dollar's attraction, as a safe haven for footloose funds.

The pound fell to a new low of \$1.4423 yesterday morning before recovering to end London trading 15 points up on the day at \$1.4493. The Deutsche mark gained nearly a penny to DM2.7303 to the dollar, after touching a 10-year low of DM2.7374 at the midday fixing in Frankfurt when the West German central bank intervened heavily with \$75.8m of dollar sales.

However, dealers saw no sign of intervention from the Bank of England.

The authorities do not want to raise interest rates to steady the pound, especially since the problem is essentially the dollar, strength rather than sterling weakness. As yet there is no pressure from the markets for them to do so.

## De Vere extends bid timing

By Jonathan Clare

The would-be bidder for De Vere Hotels and Restaurants has failed to come up with financial assurances demanded by the company within the time set. But De Vere's merchant bank, Hill Samuel, said there was a "fighting chance" the assurances would be made and the deadline has been extended by another week.

The company also confirmed that Mr Gerald Holland is the man behind an off-the-shelf company, called Selfpost, which made the approach. Mr Holland is almost unknown in the City but he is said to have property interests rather than being a hotelier.

Selfpost made a conditional agreement to buy the 51.4 per cent stake owned by De Vere's 81-year-old chairman, Herr Leopold Muller, at 340p. There is almost certain to be a Stock Exchange inquiry into dealings in De Vere shares which jumped by 83p to 340p on news of the approach but came back to 308p yesterday.

The shares were suspended before the announcement of the approach but had seen considerable trading the day before. Shareholders in De Vere have been irritated by the delay in revealing the identity of the backers for Selfpost. De Vere owns 13 hotels plus the Mirabelle restaurant and Connaught Rooms in London.

## Index hits record

The FT 30 Share Index, without Dunlop pulling it back any longer, reached a closing peak of 748.2, a gain of 6.2 points, as the property sector pulled the market forward.

On the Dunlop front, Pegg Malaysia, the largest single shareholder in beleaguered tyre group, added confusion to the proposed rescue attempt being coordinated by Sarasin International Securities, by saying yesterday that it had no immediate plans to meet the consortium and would not be sending its representatives to London to do so.

Market report, page 23

## STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 748.2 up 6.2  
FT 100: 83 up 0.2  
FT All Shares: 461.8 up 2.19  
Bargains: 20,734  
Datastream USM Leaders Index: 95.77 down 0.16  
New York: Dow Jones Average (latest) 1,273.17 up 2.64  
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 9,438.79 down 6.34  
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 881.58 up 18.38

## CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE  
Sterling \$1.4495 up 15pts  
Index 82.8 up 0.3  
DM 3.9575 down 0.0175  
FF 11.9950 down 0.0450  
Yen 339.25 down 1.50  
Dollars  
Index 129.3 down 0.4  
DM 2.7303 down 0.0082  
NEW YORK LATEST  
Sterling \$1.4520  
Dollar DM 2.7320  
INTERNATIONAL  
ECU \$0.572206  
SDR \$0.719708

## INTEREST RATES

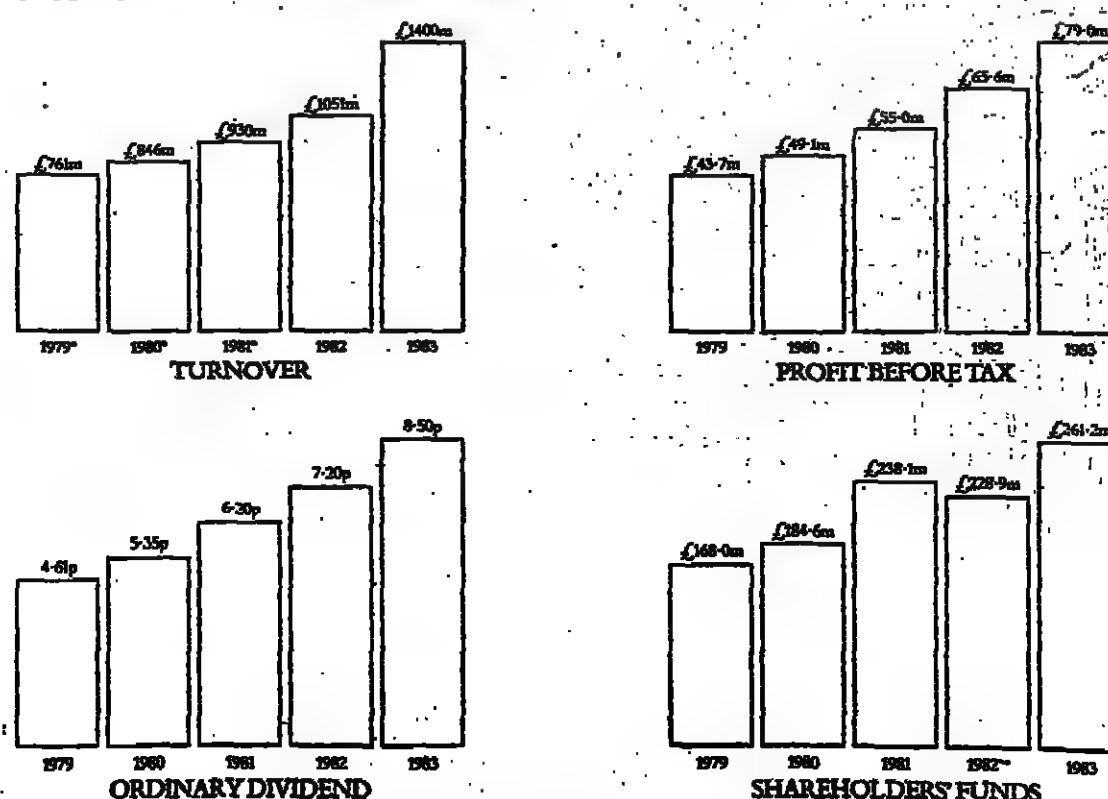
Domestic rates:  
Bank base rates 9  
Finance houses base rate 9 1/2  
Discount market loans week fixed 9-9 1/2  
3 month interbank 9 1/2-9 3/4  
Euro-currency rates:  
3 month dollar 9 1/2-9 3/4  
3 month DM 6 1/2-6 3/4  
3 month Fr 15 1/2-12 1/2  
US rates:  
Bank prime rate 11.00  
Fed funds 9 1/2  
Treasury long bond 10 1/8-10 1 1/2  
ECED Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period November 2 to December 6, 1983 inclusive: 9.950 per cent.

Trafalgar House  
PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY

## 1983 RESULTS

	1983 £'000	1982 £'000
PROFIT CONTRIBUTION: PROPERTY AND INVESTMENT ACTIVITIES	11,679	19,505
CONTRACTING, ENGINEERING AND HOUSEBUILDING	59,858	42,884
SHIPPING, AVIATION AND HOTELS	17,653	16,579
GROUP OPERATING PROFIT	89,190	78,968
INTEREST	10,156	13,407
PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION	79,034	65,561
PROFIT AFTER TAXATION	59,730	49,632
EARNINGS PER ORDINARY SHARE BEFORE EXTRAORDINARY ITEMS	24.6p	20.6p
AFTER EXTRAORDINARY ITEMS	22.6p	20.3p
ORDINARY DIVIDEND (INTERIM 4.0p, PROPOSED FINAL 4.5p)	8.5p	7.2p

## 5 YEAR FINANCIAL RECORD



"Shareholders' funds fell in 1982 due to the special dividend of £24.7m paid to effect the takeover of newspaper and magazine interests."

The 1983 Report and Accounts will be posted to Shareholders on 16th December 1983. Copies may be obtained from The Secretary, 1 Berkeley Street, London W1X 6NN.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Stenhouse Holdings resignation

The boardroom row at Stenhouse Holdings, the insurance broker which is the subject of a bid from Reed Stenhouse, intensified yesterday as Mr Herbert Houghton resigned from the board. He will be writing to shareholders to explain his action.

Mr Houghton, a former chief executive of Stenhouse, said in a statement that he felt the board had not given a positive advice to the Stenhouse Holdings shareholders on the course they should take in relation to the offer, and that its statement did not indicate the widely divergent opinions on the board.

Eagle Star has agreed to call a special shareholders' meeting to approve a capital reorganization that will reduce the expenses of any takeover bid by Allianz Versicherungs.

Shell Street Stock prices were slightly higher on moderately heavy volume yesterday. The Dow Jones Industrial Average was up about 2.5 points to about 1,273. Mean Corporation led the active list, up one to 40 1/2.

Banks Hovis McDougall, a flood combine, raised pretax profits for the year to September '83 by £9m to £44.1m. Turnover was £1,637 against £1,398m.

Investors Notebook, page 22.

## GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):  
with \$396 pm \$397  
those \$397.50-398.25 (£274-274.50)  
New York latest: \$397.75  
"overland" (per coin):  
\$399.50-411 (£282.25-283.25)  
"overseas" (new):  
\$393.50-40.50 (£284.50-65)  
Excludes VAT

## Dataserv share sale flops

Another offer for sale of shares by tender has flopped in the City. Dataserv, the US based IBM computer leasing group, announced yesterday that only 70 per cent of its offer of 6.8 million shares is being taken up at the minimum tender price of 75p. The rest will be left with the underwriters.

Coming so soon after investors turned their backs on the Government's sale of shares in Cable & Wireless, it is bound to increase doubts among issuing houses about the tender method.

The outcome surprised Samuel Montagu, the issuing house, and stockbrokers who had analysed the company.

Mr Rupert Faure Walker, a director of Montagu, cited the failure of the Cable & Wireless issue as one of the reasons for the failure of the Dataserv flotation. "I think we got caught in the backlash," he said.

## First for Fleming bank

By Philip Robinson

Robert Fleming is poised to become the first British merchant bank to act as both jobber and broker using an international dealing network which would be open 24 hours a day.

A key part of the bank's strategy to deal in international stocks start in three weeks when its New York office begins making markets in Japanese securities.

Fleming has been acting as broker and jobber in Japanese securities from London this year. Its expansion in New York was prompted by the recent large-scale interest of US institutions in the Tokyo stock market.

Fleming has always been strong in Far Eastern stocks. Through a joint venture with Jardine Matheson, the bank has a 45-man dealing and research operation and is one of the largest non-Japanese investment managers on the Tokyo exchange.

With changes in the Stock exchange rules, Fleming clearly has its eye on expanding into British and US securities. Mr William Garrett, a director, said: "At the moment we have no direct access to the London Stock Exchange. We would like it but I don't think we would be interested in taking merely a third of a broking house."

## Rescheduling repayments continuing

## Poland cuts debt to bankers

By John Lawless

Bankers who are to meet Polish officials in Vienna next week for their fourth round of rescheduling talks now estimate that Poland's debt to the West had fallen to £23.7 billion (about £16 billion) by the end of last March.

One banker said: "They have been making repayments under the previous rescheduling agreements absolutely as specified, unlike more heavily indebted countries like Brazil."

This suggests Poland has repaid between \$1.3 billion and \$3.3 billion during the past three years. Its original debt was estimated at between \$25 billion and \$27 billion, although these may have been over-estimates.

However, those payments relate only to commercial bank

debts. Talks on loans made by Western governments, believed to be \$16.8 billion, of which about \$9.9 billion is guaranteed under export credit agreements, came to a halt in Paris about two weeks ago.

They were the first since the Nato ban on rescheduling talks - which broke off in 1981, in protest against martial law - was lifted this year.

Western officials are keen not to portray the latest talks as having "broken down". But they do admit that they found the conditions being sought by the Poles as extraordinary lenient.

The Paris Club talks are likely to resume early next year, when sums of \$2.7 billion and \$1.8 billion, due to be repaid in the last two years, will be up for renegotiation.



# Brewers serve up sharp profit rises

By Jeremy Warner  
Two of Britain's big regional brewers have reported a sharp increase in profits for the year to the end of September. The pretax profits of Greenall Whitley, the largest regional brewer and owner of Vladimir vodka from Warrington, Cheshire, rose from £20.7m to £24m, while those of Vaux Breweries of Sunderland were

Greenall Whitley Year to 30.9.83 Pretax profit £24m (£20.7m) Statutory earnings 2.58p (2.44p) Turnover £258.7m (£226.6m) Net dividend 4.02p (3.69p) £1.6m higher at £12.1m. Greenall's share price jumped 7p to 111p and Vaux's 6p to 213p on news of the better-than-expected results.

Greenall saw across the board improvements in profits except in its four operating businesses. Losses there doubled to £1.1m. But were in line with expectation, the company said. A breakdown of the company's profits reveals that the hotel side was the star performer with returns rising from £1.6m to £3.1m. The company invested £10m

Vaux Breweries Year to 1.10.83 Pretax profit £12.1m (£10.5m) Statutory earnings 24.2p (21.6p) Turnover £108.8m (£96.3m) Net dividend 9.07p (8.25p) out of total capital expenditure of £20m in retail outlets, including pubs and hotels during the year. Greenall is recommending a

final dividend of 2.237p raising the total for the year by 9 per cent to 4.029p. Vaux, which is recommending a final dividend of 6.5p, raising the total for the year from 8.25p to 9.07p, said that the year had started reasonably well and the company is looking for continued growth in beer sales

# RHM

## profit up to £44.1m

Overseas profits 28% of total.  
Earnings per share up. Dividend increased.

### Final dividend

The profit for the financial year attributable to the members of the Company is £18,652,000. A final dividend of 2.450 pence per share is recommended making a total of 3.974 pence per share.

### Improved profits

The Group's profit before taxation for the financial year to 3 September 1983 was £44,112,000 compared with £35,114,000 for the previous year. External sales rose from £1,598 million to £1,636 million.

The increase of £9 million in pre-tax profits was due to good flour milling results and significant improvements by most other areas of the Group's UK businesses particularly packaged cake and grocery. As a result of the continuing price and discount war British Bakeries sustained a further substantial, but reduced, loss. Ranks (Ireland) Limited reported continuing losses and action has been taken to resolve this. In our overseas business Cerebos Pacific Limited improved on its forecast and the previous year; in the United States we maintained market share and volume but due to an unusually competitive market margins and profits were down.

The disposal in 1982 of our short term investment in British Sugar PLC resulted in a reduction in investment

income but this was offset by lower interest charges which improved as a result of lower interest rates and continuing tight control of working capital. The total reduction in interest paid for the year amounted to £3.8m.

### An improving outlook

Our on-going investment and rationalisation programmes in the bread bakeries are now beginning to show the benefits which we had planned and the recent increases in flour and bread prices will help the recovery. The sale proceeds and the large reduction in working capital arising from the recent disposal of the agricultural division and other major disposals has provided us with the facility to strengthen and expand our successful food business worldwide.

The disposal of the agricultural division, which historically earned virtually all of its profits during the first half-year, will in future result in a changed phasing of the Group's profits. Trading to date is ahead of plan. Although it is still too early to forecast profits for the half-year, we feel confident about the future development and progress of the Group.

PWJ Reynolds, Chairman

RESULTS IN BRIEF	1983 £000	1982 £000
Turnover (Sales outside the group)	1,636,872	1,598,466
Profit before tax	44,112	35,114
Taxation	12,404	9,841
Profit after tax	31,708	25,273
Minority interests	1,121	88
Extraordinary items	(11,935)	(10,545)
Profit attributable to shareholders	18,652	14,640
Dividends: Preference	283	283
Ordinary	11,086	10,692
(paid and proposed):		
Profit retained	7,283	3,665
Earnings per Ordinary share of 25p	10.9p	9.0p

**RHM**  
RANKS HOVIS McDOUGALL PLC

The 1983 Annual Report will be available from December 30. If you wish to have a copy please write to: The Secretary, Ranks Hovis McDougall PLC, P.O. Box 178, Alma Road, Windsor, Berks SL2 3BT

## Securities Bill likely next year

By Philip Robinson

Parliamentary draftsman are now working on the details of what may become Britain's first Securities Act, laying down laws for the protection of the investor.

A draft Securities Bill is likely to emerge in about three months. The detailed proposed legislation was due to be attached to a two-year report on investor protection by Professor Laurence "Jim" Gower.

But two problems prevented this. He ran into trouble with the EEC over some proposed changes relating to the insurance industry, and the Stock Exchange agreement with the Government caused a postponement of his thoughts on Britain's bastion of self-regulation.

The Department of Trade and Industry, which commissioned Professor Gower's study, received his report this month. It is likely to be published as a White Paper early next year.

Professor Gower is believed to favour financial markets and investor advisers regulating themselves. Alongside would run a system of licensing administered by the Department of Trade and Industry for those who do not wish to register with a self-regulated organization.

## Bell Group seeks mine stake

By Our Financial Staff

Mr Robert Holmes & Court's Bell Group is negotiating with Broken Hill Proprietary, Australia's largest company, to buy a 5 per cent stake in Utah International's Australian coal mines.

BHP has been negotiating to buy Utah from General Electric of the United States for US\$2,400m (£1,700m), but the deal has not yet been signed because of the delay in forming a consortium to take over the Australian coal mining interests.

Mr Holmes & Court, who controls Associated Communications Corporation and has been building up a stake in Fleet Holdings in Britain, told Bell's shareholders there was no connection between the Utah negotiations and the recent bid for BHP.

General Electric has agreed to retain up to a quarter of its interest in Utah's coal resources.

## The Scottish Metropolitan Property PLC

### "Shareholders Funds Now Exceed £100m."

Main points from the Report for the year ended 15th August, 1983, and the Statement by the Chairman, Mr. David Walton, OSU JP Hon FRCPs (Glasg)

- 16.59% increase in Net Revenue from properties to £6.8m (£5.8m).
- Earnings per share 4.51p (3.87p).
- Dividend payment for year on enlarged share capital at 3.5p net per share amounted to £3.4m (3.5p-£3.1m).
- Internal Property Valuation at 15th August, 1983, amounted to £105.2m.
- Expansion continuing at satisfactory levels.

Stock Exchange House, 69 St. George's Place, Glasgow G2 1BE.

## Ex-president calls for currency targets

By John Lawless

Governments controlling the world's main currencies should agree to let them move against each other only within "target zones" for two to three years, M Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, the former French president, said in London yesterday.

Only at that stage, when the volatility of exchange rates had been reduced, would it make any sense to stage the "high level international monetary conference" agreed at this year's Williamsburg summit.

The former president, detailing a series of complex steps he believes is required to bring about a new global monetary system at the Financial Times World Banking in 1984 conference, said: "The most important decisions might well be the inclusion of the pound in the EMS."

M Giscard d'Estaing was, with Her Helmut Schmidt, the former West German Chancellor, co-architect of the European Monetary System.

He said: "The promotion of the EMS is probably the best way for Europeans to induce the American authorities to assess better the international role of the dollar, as was demonstrated in 1978-79 when the launching of the EMS led the US Government to initiate a comprehensive programme to bolster the value of its currency."

Its strengthening, to include all European currencies, would also result in the ECU (the European Currency Unit, which is a basket of EEC currencies) gradually becoming an international currency in its own right.

The power, expertise and influence of the City of London would give the ECU instant

credibility and additional acceptance," he told his audience of almost 200 bankers, adding: "I hope that the present opportunity will be seized."

This would enable a "move towards a more stable framework for relations between major currencies".

M Giscard d'Estaing said: "My experience has always been that the US authorities are not interested in any discussion on the international monetary system - unless they see, or foresee, a decline in the value of the dollar."

But next year could force them into constructive talks, because a \$100 billion trade deficit forecast for that year is not a "sustainable position". Any new system would not embrace rigidity in exchange rates, but should include "target zones between the dollar, the ECU and the yen".

M Giscard d'Estaing welcomed the Japanese prime minister's recent decision to "broaden the international use of the yen in trade and financial relations".

Since exchange rates are largely determined by domestic developments, governments would have to set "mutually agreed monetary targets".

Coordinated intervention by central banks would operate through the use of the swap network, the inclusion of diversified foreign holdings in the reserve assets of all participants, including the US.

"After the effective functioning of this target zones system over two or three years, the time would be ripe for a conference to address the question of the stabilization of monetary relations within the world monetary system with broader coverage."

## New turn in battle for Foster's lager group

By Jonathan Clare

The battle for control of the brewer of the Australian drinkers' best known beer, Foster's Lager, took another bizarre twist yesterday, when the original bidder's stake was bought by a rival.

This fight over Carlton and United Breweries is the biggest yet seen in Australia and puts a value on the brewer of A\$970m (about £600m).

Last Sunday, Elders-IXL, Australia's biggest agricultural group with diversified interests which include merchant banking, made a counter-bid for Carlton to defeat a limited offer

made by an industrial investment company.

The twist is that Elders is 49.4 per cent owned by Carlton. If its bid is successful, it will have to sell the Elders shares owned by Carlton within a year under Australian company law.

Yesterday, Elders announced that Industrial Equity Ltd (IEL), the investment company which bid first, had agreed to sell the stake it had built up in Carlton for A\$70m.

So far, Carlton has not recommended the Elders' bid. But it could frustrate Elders' plans by buying 0.7 per cent of Elders' shares in the market, so giving it control of more than 50 per cent.

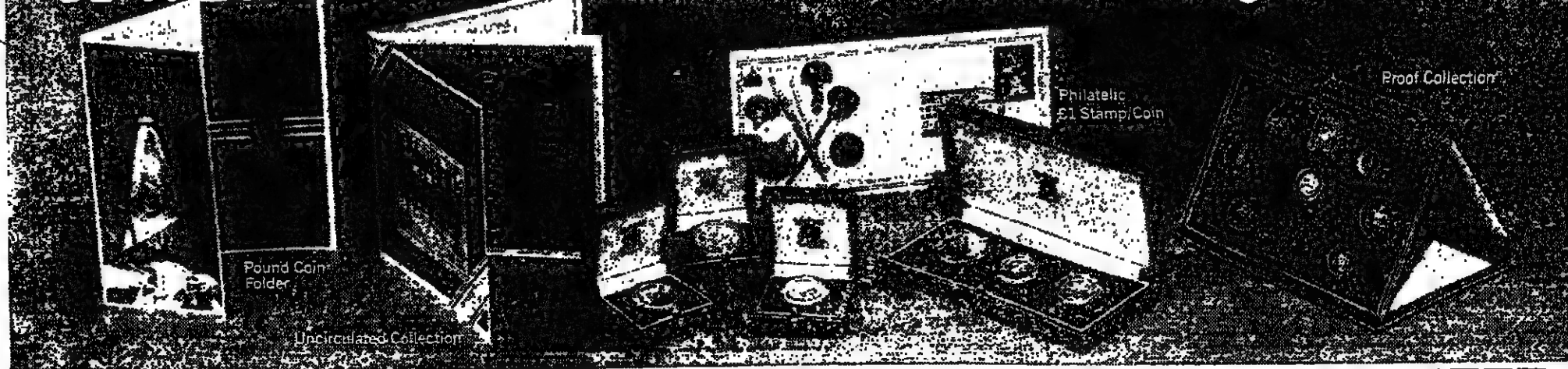
The terms of Elders' offer are six of its shares and A\$12.20 cash for every 10 Carlton shares. After news of the deal with IEL, Carlton's shares fell from A\$3.40 on the Sydney stock exchange.

## Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	9%
Barclays	9%
BCCI	9%
Chibank Savings	110%
Consolidated Crds	9%
Continental Trust	9%
C. Hoare & Co	9%
Lloyds Bank	9%
Midland Bank	9%
Nat Westminster	9%
TSB	9%
Williams & Glyn's	9%

† Mortgage Base Rates.  
\* 7 day deposits on terms of under £10,000. 14 day £10,000 up to £50,000. 28 day £50,000 and over. 7%.

## A wealth of Gift ideas from the Royal Mint



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What better gift than a Royal Mint Special Collectors' Coin or Set. These superb coins reflect the skills and traditions of one of the nation's oldest manufacturing institutions and will be appreciated from generation to generation. The ideal gift.

The 1983 Proof Collection - only £17.25. Struck in superb proof quality, this fine collection comprises the £1, 50p, 20p, 10p, 5p, 2p, 1p and 1/2p, together with the unique Royal Mint medallion. This popular issue is limited to only 125,000 for world-wide distribution. Supplied in an attractive folding display case, it is the ideal Christmas gift.

The 1983 Uncirculated Collection - only £3.95. The ideal gift for the younger collector. The coins of the realm, struck in uncirculated quality and displayed in an attractive, colourful, fact-filled presentation folder. Everyone will be fascinated to

see how coins are made, and to read the story of the new pound coin.

The 1983 Uncirculated Pound Coin Presentation Folder - only £2.45. An uncirculated coin has been specially struck to commemorate the issue of the new £1 coin and has been mounted in a beautiful, colourful folder containing details on the Royal Mint, coin making and the new coin. A must for collector or non-collector.

The Philatelic/Numismatic £1 Stamp/Coin Cover - £4.95. Limited to just 10,000, an uncirculated one pound coin is displayed in the official philatelic cover bearing a one-pound stamp and pictorial postmark and date of issue (21 April 1983) of the new coin.

The United Kingdom Gold Coins of 1983 - from £79.95. All the nation's gold coins struck in proof quality, 22 carat gold with frosted design reliefs and a mirror-like back-ground, these coins are amongst

the finest anywhere in the world. They all depict the classic portrayal of St George slaying the Dragon together with the renowned Martin portrait of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

The Half-Sovereign. Weighing 2.99g and limited to only 22,500 coins world-wide - just £79.95.

The Sovereign. Weighing 7.99g and limited to only 22,500 world-wide - just £149.95.

The Two Pound. For the first time since Queen Victoria's reign this rare coin is available and available. Weighing 15.99g, limited to only 12,500 pieces - just £299.95.

The 3-coin Collection. Save £29.90! The first ever 3-coin gold collection is available to collectors in a beautiful display case - only £499.95 - a saving of £29.90! Royal Mint Coin Club, Freeport, PO Box 502, Cardiff CF1 1HH

To: Royal Mint Coin Club, Freeport, PO Box 502, Cardiff CF1 1HH

Please send me:  
(A001) 1983 Proof Half-Sovereign (set) @ £79.95 each  
(A002) 1983 Proof Sovereign (set) @ £149.95 each  
(A003) 1983 Proof £2 (set) @ £299.95 each  
(A004) 1983 Gold (set) @ £499.95 each  
Orders of £10 or more - post free! Less than £10 please include £2.95 to defray cost of post, packing and processing. I enclose a cheque/PO/Giro or charge my Access/Visa. Cardholders may order direct by phoning Coin Club (0443) 228798 (office hours) or (0443) 223880 (evening/weekends).  
Credit card No: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Postcode \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Block capitals please!  
Royal Mint  
No 414225 TT1







## Computer group up 112%

By Jeremy Warner

United Leasing  
Half-year to 30.9.83  
Pretax profit £1.2m (£573,000)  
Stated earnings 8.7p (4.8p)  
Turnover £16m (£8.8m)  
Net interim dividend 0.8p (-)

United Leasing, an IBM computer leasing group, yesterday reported a 112 per cent increase in its half-year pretax profits.

The profits rose from £573,000 to £1.2m in the six months to the end of September.

When United Leasing was floated on the stock market last July, the share issue flopped and only 50 per cent of the shares on offer were applied for. The shares were valued then at 140p each but they have forged ahead in recent months and rose a further 10p yesterday when they closed at 218p.

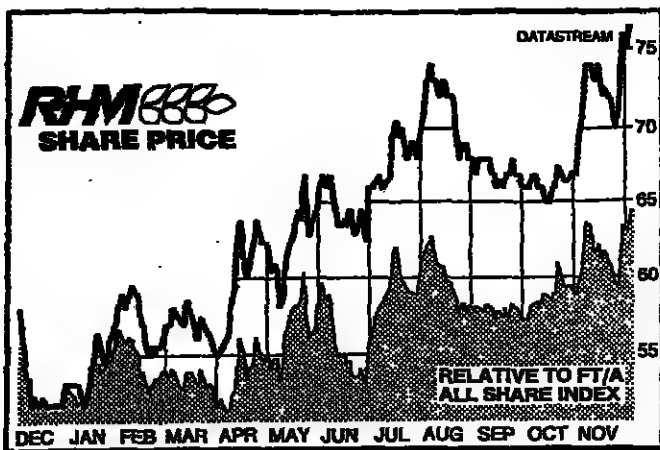
The company said that the market for IBM equipment remains extremely buoyant, helped by the high volume of 308X processors and 3380 disk drives being shipped abroad. United Leasing has benefited greatly from this popularity of IBM products.

The American subsidiary, Unilease Computer Corporation, is said to be making outstanding progress in the United States. A regional office is being established in Florida and the company is transferring its New York headquarters to larger premises.

An interim dividend of 0.8p is to be paid. Mr Parry Mitchell and his brother Ashley, the chairman and managing director respectively, are waiving their rights to this dividend.

## INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK • edited by Michael Prest

# RHM simplifies to accumulate more



average price received was £8,603 a tonne compared with £6,858.

But it is also true that the new Tri-flo treatment plant has increased capacity by a quarter. Tin in concentrates produced rose from 415 tonnes to 457 tonnes, while recovery, helped by a modest improvement in grades, was 4.61 kilograms per tonne against 4.41.

To sustain progress, £2.2m is to be spent on sinking a sub-incline shaft below the old Levant workings. The prospect of maintaining reserves should underpin the share price of 138p, up 10p, and the full year dividend.

### Coalite

Coalite's peripheral activities - like builders' merchanting, sheep farming in the Falklands and vehicle building - are showing an encouraging improvement. But with almost 90 per cent of profits derived from

the traditional fuel and chemical activities the final results depend heavily on the severity of the winter months for a good second half.

Yesterday's half-year profits showed a 22 per cent increase from £8.2m to £10m, rather better than expected and the shares closed 4p higher at 170p.

During the summer, the company benefited from a slightly larger than usual discount from the National Coal Board of £7 per ton, which helped to build up stocks. Volume coal sales were about the same as a year ago. The market for smokeless fuels has been declining but there are signs that the demand is now bumping along the bottom and the company expects an increase in domestic consumption. Capacity, cut sharply in 1976, has been increased by 10 per cent since the end of last year.

Builders' merchanting has benefited from more private housing starts and would

### Geevor Tin Mines

Shareholders in Geevor Tin Mines, Britain's only quoted tin mine, do not need elephantine memories to recall the company last paid a dividend in 1980, but they will be gratified by the 4p net interim the Cornish producer proposes.

The dividend is made possible by a sharp recovery from the £244,000 loss made in the first half of last year to a pretax profit of £601,000.

Even after paying £309,000 tax, Geevor can feel justifiably pleased with after tax profits of £292,000. Not surprisingly, earnings per share have soared from a loss of 8.21p to a profit of 9.83p.

This recovery owes much to the success of the International Tin Agreement and the Buffer Stock Manager in restricting other producers' exports and supporting the price. Geevor's

## COMMODITIES

### LONDON COMMODITY PRICES

Commodity	Unit	Price
Rubber	in Cx per ton	104.50
Coffee	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Sugar	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Wheat	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Barley	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Oats	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Maize	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Soyabean	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Groundnut	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Linseed	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Mustard	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Peas	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Beans	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Lentils	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Chickpeas	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Almonds	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Pistachios	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Walnuts	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Chestnuts	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Macadamia	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Coconut	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Palm	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Vegetable	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Edible	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Oil	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Animal	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Mineral	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Metals	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Gold	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Silver	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Platinum	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Palladium	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Rhodium	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Iridium	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Osmium	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Antimony	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Arsenic	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Bismuth	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Cadmium	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Copper	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Lead	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Nickel	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Vanadium	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Zinc	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Aluminium	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Iron	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Steel	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Brass	in 50 lb bags	104.50
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Iron	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Steel	in 50 lb bags	104.50
Brass	in 50 lb bags	104.50

## COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

Butterfield-Harvey  
Half-year to 1.10.83  
Pretax profit £739,000 (£513,000)  
Turnover £22.6m (£21.6m)  
Net interim dividend None (same)

Carless Capel & Leonard  
Year to 30.9.83  
Pretax profit £1.4m (£904,000)  
Stated earnings 1.47p (1.45p)  
Turnover £40.4m (£35.2m)  
Net interim dividend 1p (same)

Rowlinson Securities  
Year to 30.9.83  
Pretax profit £332,000 (£322,000)  
Stated earnings 1.27p (1.24p)  
Turnover £4.7m (£4.3m)  
Net interim dividend 0.18p (same)

Leads Group  
Year to 30.9.83  
Pretax profit £1.2m (£1.1m)  
Stated earnings 18.5p (15.3p)  
Turnover £3m (£2.9m)  
Net dividend 4.5p (same)

Sketchley has made its first acquisition in Europe. It is paying DM11.83m (£470,000) of the Frisch Service laundry group of Heinsberg, West Germany. Its principle customers are hospitals and hotels.

British Electronic Traction has completed the sale of Canadian Motorways for £316m (£29m) in cash.

Resource Technology is paying to be satisfied by the issue of 3.4 million shares, 2.8 million of which will be placed for the SPT Group. It makes communications systems and ancillary products. The group intends to apply for a full listing on completion of the deal.

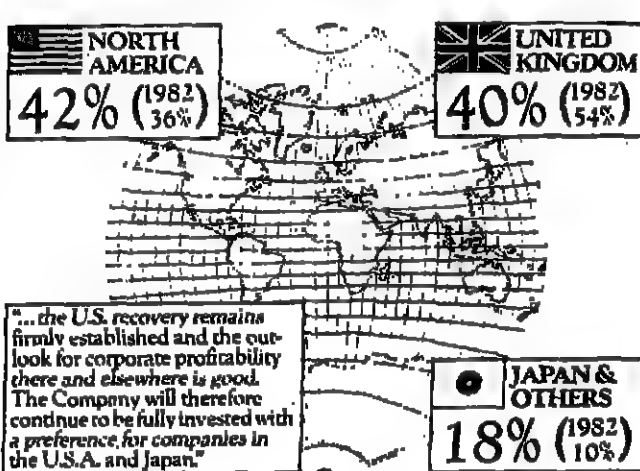
The half share in Mobil Hubner, the West Berlin furniture store, owned by the former UDS Group has been sold by Hanson Trust to a German family which controls the balance of the shares. The family paid £4.4m.

## The Northern American Trust PLC

Results for year ended 31st October 1983

Per Ordinary Share	1983	1982
Net Asset Value	+29.4%	274.7p
Earnings	-4.1%	5.39p
Dividend	*	5.4p

### Geographic Distribution of Assets at 31st October 1983



Copies of the Annual Report may be obtained from the Joint Secretaries.  
The Northern American Trust PLC, Belsize House, West Ferry, Dundee DD5 1NF. 0382-78244.

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## INVESTORS IN INDUSTRY GROUP plc

SIX MONTHS UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED RESULTS

	6 months to September 30	Year to March 31
	1983	1982
	£'000	£'000
Group income	63,454	68,082
Profits on realisation	20,431	8,126
Associated companies	3,777	3,334
	87,662	79,542
Interest on borrowings	51,680	54,012
Provisions	15,787	14,475
	67,467	68,487
Profit before tax	20,195	11,055
Estimated tax	8,412	3,414
Profit after tax	11,783	7,641
Extraordinary costs	1,205	74
	10,578	7,567
	14,611	

### Notes:

1. An interim dividend will be paid in respect of the year ending March 31, 1984 of 2.5p per share, £2,875,000 (1982: 2.0p per share, £2,300,000).

2. The figures for the year ended March 31, 1983 are taken from accounts filed with the Registrar of Companies and the auditors' report was unqualified.



91 Waterloo Road, London. SE1 8XP



**BELL'S**  
SCOTCH WHISKY  
**BELL'S**

# BELLS

SCOTCH WHISKY

1932/3		Gross Div 776		
High	Low	Company	Price Ch'ge	% 776
37	18	N. Thurg. Inc 53	6 1/2	3.15 3.0
256	91	Do Co 200	5 1/2	2.7 2.5
256	91	New York 255	4 1/2	4.1 1.5
229	125	North Atlantic 122	4 1/2	4.3 1.5
229	125	N. Va. Am 122	4 1/2	4.3 1.5
227	124	Northwestern Am 123	4 1/2	4.3 3.3
227	124	Old & Associated 113	4 1/2	4.3 3.3
235	151	Pennland 206	3 1/2	3.6 3.4
235	151	Phila. & W. Va. 206	3 1/2	3.6 3.4
245	161	Rubens 75	7 1/2	22.8 4.4
245	161	Rollins 75	7 1/2	22.8 4.4
715	445	Veritas 20	6 1/2	12.7 2.7
230	131	R.T. Northwestern 127	4 1/2	4.1 1.1
230	131	Scott Am 127	4 1/2	4.7 2.6
116	17	Scott Eastern 200	4 1/2	4.7 2.4
127	121	Scott 127	4 1/2	4.7 2.4
270	149	Scott Mortgage 270	4 1/2	5.3 2.3
270	149	Securities 270	4 1/2	5.3 2.3
118	28	Scott Northern 187	4 1/2	12.6 3.6
466	281	De Alliance 490	4 1/2	9.6 1.6
219	135	Stewart 35	4 1/2	9.6 1.6
219	135	Stockholders 35	4 1/2	9.6 1.6
174	90	T. Australia 174	3 1/2	5.2 3.0
174	90	T. C. of La. 174	3 1/2	5.2 3.0
115	79 1/2	T. Ind. & Gen 115	3 1/2	5.3 2.9
219	143	T. Natural Res 219	4 1/2	10.0 4.5
185	91	Tex. American 185	4 1/2	4.4 3.0
185	91	T. Pacific Coast 113	4 1/2	4.4 3.0
185	91	T. P. 113	4 1/2	4.4 3.3

148	85 1/2	TR Technology	145	..	4.7	3.2	..
96	63	TR Trustees	98	..	4.6	4.7	..
206	120	Three Sea Corp	206	+2	3.68	4.2	..
					3.3	3.5	

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134	245	Stock Conv	133	-	5.9	5.1
135	246	Stock Conv	134	-	5.9	5.1
136	247	Webb J	135	-	0.7	4.6 76.2
<b>PLANTATIONS</b>						
85	48	Barlow Ridge	763	-	5.7	5.5
863	413	Cassella Inv	603	-	10.0	4.3
869	340	Camfield	604	-	20.0	4.0
870	341	Camfield	605	414	3.0	3.0
124	100	Dorndankende	112	-	4.3	2.6
107	42	Richards & Low	96	-	6.2	6.2
108	150	Houngton	172	-	5.0	5.0
233	140	McLeod Russell	188	-	0.5	0.1
153	99	Do 8.4% Cav PT118	120	-	12.0	10.2
90	58	Majedie	240	-	4.7	4.8
33	328	Do 8.4% Cav PT118	240	-	4.7	4.8

65	27	Howe Evans Inv	57	11	2.6	22.8
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>						
40*	31	Essex Wtr 3.54	140*	-2	500	12.3
122	17*	Gt Nflda Tele	272	-1*	50.1	21.2
122	39	Mitford Docks	57	3	6.1	8.2
122	79*	Nelson Inv	50	-3	10.0	11.5
40*	31	Sunderland Wtr	540*	30	500	12.3
<b>UNLISTED SECURITIES</b>						
420	227	Air Can	430		8.5	1.9
250*	6	Barkley Exp	66			
170	180	Cent Ind TV-NY	270			

359	110	Cornell Ridge	229	43		
151	73	Exbury Gap	210			
152	73	Exbury Gap	210			
153	86	Exbury Gap	210			
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FOOTBALL: BURKINSHAW'S CHANCE TO CONQUER EUROPE, ENGLAND, THE WORLD

# Tottenham risk two wingers and gamble on Hoddle's pride

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

Tottenham Hotspur and Bayern Munich will tonight play a game of risk at White Hart Lane. The stakes are high, for not only are they competing for a place in the quarter-finals of the Uefa Cup, but the victors will be regarded as one of the favourites to go on and win the competition.

Tottenham, 1-0 down from the first leg, have bravely decided to stretch their young wings, Dick and Cooke, who are only 18. "It excites me when we play with two flankers," Keith Burkinshaw, their manager, said yesterday. "We did not do so in Germany because we expected to be forced to defend."

Tottenham, who have conceded two goals in each of their last four League fixtures, are clearly more suited to an attacking strategy, but Burkinshaw admits that he is asking his side to maintain "a difficult balance." Initially, at least, the desire to push forward should be restrained by the need for caution.

Bayern's gamble concerns the fitness of Karl-Heinz Rummenigge. Before the kick-off, he will have a pain-killing injection in his troublesome thigh in the



Ardiles: could come on for the last 20 minutes.

hope that he can stay on the pitch long enough to present a genuine threat. A fortnight ago, that amounted to 45 minutes.

But Rummenigge's departure merely left the stage open for his 19-year-old brother, Michael, who showed that he can be as quick and as dangerous, particularly on the break, in a manner so reminiscent of his more famous sibling, he dimmed Tottenham's lights by claiming the winner six minutes from the end.

Even if that lone goal proves to be decisive, the crowd at White Hart Lane may be given some consolation. After only four senior appearances in two years, Ardiles is on the verge of making his long-awaited comeback. Burkinshaw says that he may "put him in for the last 20 minutes or so."

After returning from France, Ardiles fractured his left shin and compounded the injury in a friendly match before the start of this season. He admits he is not fully fit and "would be quite happy to stay on the bench as long as we win."

With Brazil suffering from an ankle injury, Mabbitt, Galvin and Miller still unavailable, Burkinshaw has retained the

## World Cup favourites and favouritism

By Stuart Jones

The World Cup finals may be 30 months away but, shortly after three o'clock this afternoon, a record entry of 121 nations will begin to plot their routes to Mexico. The roads will each start in Zurich, where the draw is to take place at FIFA's headquarters, and 97 of them will finish short of their intended destination.

A glimpse of the paths that lie ahead was unveiled yesterday when FIFA announced the seedings and the format of the competition. Europe, the largest contingent with 32 competitors, was divided into four groups with Austria, England, France, Poland, the Soviet Union, Spain and West Germany heading the way as the top seeds.

FIFA's selection committee based their judgment more on the performances in the last World Cup than in the present European championship. Even so, it is astonishing that Belgium have not been included. Apart from West Germany, they alone have qualified for the final stages of both events (France, as hosts, reached the last eight of the European tournament automatically).

It is not the first time that Belgium have suffered such a fate. They felt they had been asked to take an unexpectedly long path in Spain, where they were again seeded second, last year. Their president, Louis Wouters, described the move as "evident hypocrisy and favouritism," pointing out that England, then seeded top, had "done nothing since 1966".

Others in the second group will be disappointed that the world is bigger than the continent in the eyes of the judges. Yugoslavia, for instance, could yet equal the feat of the Belgians and the Germans and, over the last year, Denmark and Northern Ireland have proved themselves superior to England and Austria respectively.

## Wallace, homework finished must now pass French test

By Srikumar Sen, Boxing Correspondent



Wallace: weight problem

That first round bout from George Fosse that halted Tony Willis's challenge for the British lightweight championship on Saturday stopped boxing experts in their tracks. They had been predicting an epic encounter. If you ask the experts about the chances of Britain's world-rated flyweight Keith Wallace relieving the unranked Antoine Montero of his European title at the Bloomsbury Crest Hotel tonight they stroke their chins wisely and say "Don't know mate, not after what happened to Willis".

The little dark Frenchman has made the trip to London mainly to pick up the biggest cheque of his career, a record £24,000. If he should get lucky, he could keep his title as well.

Though Montero has had 19 bouts against Wallace's 13, most of the Frenchman's opponents have been European, some of whom were sent packing by Charlie Magri. Wallace's opponent has been of better quality and he has beaten four foreigners with well over average ability: Henry Drent (US), Steve Whiststone (US), Stephen Muchoki (Kenya), the former Commonwealth title holder, and Juan Diaz (Mexico), the man who floored Magri. The red-haired fighter from Liverpool took good shots from all four, including hard punches to the body, considered by some to be Wallace's weak point after an American amateur called Pruitt stopped him in an England v United States A-minor game. Muchoki Wallace used the left hook and the upper cut to great advantage and both punches should play a big part tonight.

There is only one question mark over Wallace - his weight. It is all very looking the part over eight stone but if he struggles in the upper limit he could feel it in the later rounds.

When asked, "Why are you looking so pale?" Wallace answers, "Don't know, maybe it's the cold". His corner makes light of the weight problem. They are quite confident about the outcome of the bout. "He is not like Willis. He keeps his hands up. He'll walk through him. We've seen Montero on video. They know he's not a tough guy. We've seen Montero on video. They know he's not a tough guy. We've seen Montero on video. They know he's not a tough guy."

But I am sending him out to do the business from the first round."

● ITV will not broadcast tonight's fight until Saturday after the promoter, Frank Warren, was refused permission by the Board of Control to have television coverage on the night of the bout. John Bromley, ITV's head of sport said: "We have taken this decision not because we agree with the Boxing Board of Control's television policy, but simply to safeguard the interests of the boxers involved. There is no way that we would have wanted Keith Wallace, whose challenge for the European title has twice been postponed, to have been deprived of his chance yet again."

## Coolness the key in freezing conditions

From Clive White, Prague

What, you ask yourself, have Watford got to smile about. They are third from bottom of the first division, a goal down from the home leg of a Uefa Cup first-round tie and the short of five first-choice but ineligible players. Yet not even the temperature of minus seven (C) with accompanying snow could numb this jovial band of players, supporters and officials when they arrived here yesterday.

It was like a day's outing with a very big family (140 supporters travelled). Elton John, the chairman, was handing out birthday cake and even the airline carrier displayed the club colours, by a happy coincidence. This is another experience for a club not used to the big time, but they mean to enjoy it, as well as learn from it, no matter what the outcome.



Jobson: erratic.

Graham Taylor, the manager, admitted it does more than what his appetite. The scenario for this second leg is tailor-made for him as it was in Sofia in the previous round. He talks excitedly about the odds that are stacked against them, the physical strength of the Spartans, the icy weather and the passionate crowd of 30,000 perched almost on the backs of the players.

It is this bubbling optimism and attitude that problems are there to be overcome that he tries to instill in his players.

He has told them not to worry if the score is still 0-0 at half-time. "We scored three in seven minutes on Saturday. It is not impossible to score twice in 30 minutes. It is normal," he said. "I've told them to keep their discipline and think, think, think."

They stopped thinking in the first 45 minutes at Victoria Road but still came back from two goals behind to level the tie. The advertising hoardings outside the stadium yesterday was appropriate: it said "Holiday on Ice".

goals down. But this is a different team, an irregular and inexperienced one not coated with the resilience that comes from winning. When Porter came on as a substitute on Saturday he was the twenty-seventh player they have used this season. The full backs, Price and Gibbs, have only ever played one first team game and eight players are under the age of 21.

Apart from Price for Taylor the only other player from the first leg is Jobson for Johnson. Though erratic, Jobson is a strong runner and it is this type they will need to break free of the defensive mould that can set when teams are under continual pressure.

Taylor does not believe that the weather conditions will play during the winter. Their assets can be frozen too. Let us hope Watford's festive mood still prevails today whatever the result. The advertising hoardings outside the stadium yesterday was appropriate: it said "Holiday on Ice".

## Canute Clough and the tide of passion

By Hugh Taylor

The rapturous encouragement of more than 60,000 of Britain's most passionate football supporters and the fierce determination of Scots to ensure that the old enemy from England are defeated combine to make Celtic favourites to win the Uefa Cup tie with Nottingham Forest at Parkhead tonight.

Celtic appear to have an advantage over Forest, having already achieved a 0-0 draw in Nottingham, regarded in European football as a satisfactory result. But David Hay, the Celtic manager, is under no illusions about the magnitude of the task which confronts his side in the second leg of a game which has caught the imagination of the public to such an extent that all 67,000 tickets have been sold with thousands left disappointed.

Hay holds the Forest manager, Brian Clough, in high regard, paying him this compliment: "You have to look at his record to realize how far he has come. He has not only accomplished Clough. No matter how eccentric some of his ideas may be - for instance he does not take advantage of our training facilities at Parkhead, preferring to allow his team to relax on the Troon golf course - he is a master of European tactics."

"It will be a long hard night indeed, a case of wearing Forest down. While it has some similarity to the previous round, when we beat Sporting Lisbon, the difference is that Forest will be much harder to break down. They are tailor-made to play away from home - not a side to go all out on attack either at home or away, being more geared to hit on the break."

Although we had to be wary of losing a goal against Sporting, we were already two down and had to have a go all the way. This time we must be even more wary of losing a goal."

So while he calls for a repeat of the spectacular, driving raids which

## Graham returns after injury

Arthur Graham is back in Manchester United's team for their Milk Cup fourth round replay with Oxford United at Old Trafford tonight. Graham missed last week's 1-1 draw at Oxford and Saturday's home defeat by Everton because of an ankle injury but passed a fitness test yesterday and will replace Mark Hughes, the goalkeeper at Oxford, who reverts to substitute, Norman Whiteside again links up with Frank Stapleton because Gary Crooks is cup-tied. Oxford have a slight doubt about George Lawrence who misses the game at Southend on Friday because of a back injury.

● Gary Shaw, of Aston Villa, will begin his comeback from a cartilage operation by playing in the third team fixture on Saturday.

● Mark Barham, of Norwich City, went into hospital yesterday for an exploratory operation on a knee injury.

● Stoke's Welsh international midfielder player Mickey Thomas yesterday joined his colleague Sammy McIlroy by asking for a transfer.

## Cram leads to the altar

Steve Cram, the world 1,500m champion, has cast doubts on the use of altitude training in his bid to win the Olympic title in Los Angeles next summer.

"I am not convinced of the benefits. I've been to Colorado for the last two years, but the benefits wear off after a couple of weeks," he said.

He will decide whether to return to Colorado after a hectic period over Christmas and the new year. The 23-year-old from Newcastle Upon Tyne got married on December 17 and two days later is the subject of an hour long profile on Channel 4 television.

There will be no honeymoon for Cram and his fiancée Karen, because she has to go straight back to work as a teacher, and Cram, who wants to complete a set of world, European, Commonwealth and Olympic gold medals, is spending the winter competing in Australia and New Zealand.

## Rebels with backbone

Johannesburg (Reuters) - The unofficial West Indian touring party go into their first one-day international match against a South African side here today buoyed by a more solid batting performance in the preliminary games than in their first boycott-breaking tour earlier this year.

The new recruits, Faoued Bacchus and the Surrey player, Monte Lynch have added backbone to the previously soft batting line-up, and the West Indians could present a considerable challenge to the ageing injury-plagued home team.

Only three of the 12 players selected for South Africa are under 30, and several of them are far from fully fit.

WEST INDIALS (probable): Bacchus, Greenidge, Lynch, Kallis, Rowe (captain), King, Murray (for Trott), Giff, Charles, Albury, Seachurn (for Parry).

SOUTH AFRICAN 1st XI (probable): Bessie, Cook, Fotheringham, Pollock, McEwen, Rios, Procter, Kouris, Kuper, Jennings, de Roux, Hanley.

## Kirk backs Boycott compromise

Reg Kirk, one of the leading members of the Yorkshire Members 1984 Group and also on the Yorkshire County Cricket Club general committee, has given his support for a compromise on the Boycott issue "before the county tears itself apart."

In an interview on BBC Radio Leeds, Kirk said that he favoured the plan put forward by the former Yorkshire bowler Bob Appleyard

## Content, but not in the pink

By George Chesterton

Charterhouse... 2  
Westminster... 2

Westminster yesterday took the lead early, lost it in the second half but managed an equalizer in the dying minutes.

The Charterhouse-Westminster fixture has claimed to be the oldest schools match in the calendar, dating from the days before Charterhouse moved out of London. Westminster looked smart in their new blue shirts, and those who regret the passing of their pink will find solace in its retention in the cuffs and collar.

In the early stages Charterhouse threatened and indeed, throughout the first half had the edge territorially. Westminster made some constructive forays, masterminded by the captain, Pennant-Jones, and it was from one of these that Horan shot firmly past Taylor, who had advanced rather too far forward. Charterhouse came back strongly but was thwarted first by Drawbell and a minute or two later by the diminutive Levy in the Charterhouse goal, who at full stretch tipped over a header from Ibru.

At the beginning of the second half, Griffiths of Charterhouse seemed on a keel, but he was unable to level the score. Within minutes, Pennant received a pass deep on the left, beat three men in opening up the goal, and shot into the far corner to put Charterhouse ahead. At this state they were dominating the play in midfield Golder being particularly steady and initiating some threatening attacks.

In the gloom of the last 15 minutes as the sun went down, Westminster rallied and both sides played some of the most constructive football of the match. With only minutes left Pennant-Jones passed down the right for Catto to cut in and shoot past Taylor to level the score.

## Charlton's punishment in blanket of secrecy

The troubled second division club, Charlton Athletic, ran into more difficulties yesterday, when they were found guilty of breaking Football League regulations over the transfer of Ronnie Moore from Rotherham earlier this season. But Mark Hulver, who recently regained his position as chairman, left the Football League commission hearing at a London hotel with out revealing the club's punishment, and a spokesman for the commission said: "We have agreed not to make public our decision at the moment."

Rotherham had complained that Charlton had breached the new transfer rules by failing to pay the agreed £35,000 fee when Moore signed in September.

He has since scored five goals for Charlton, but Rotherham have demanded either money or the player's return.

Charlton, given a stay of execution in the winding-up process started by the former chairman, Mike Gilkstein, paid off £8,000 of the fee on Monday after a fund-raising effort by their supporters. All Mr Hulver would say yesterday was: "We have been found guilty of

## Hamburg's need for world title

Bonn (Reuters) - Hamburg, already out of this season's European Cup, badly need to beat Gremio of Porto Alegre in next Sunday's world cup championship in Tokyo to fend off a pressing financial crisis.

With a 1-0 victory against Juventus in the European Cup final and the team's second successive German League title, last season was Hamburg's most successful ever. But success came dear. The club had to pay players' bonuses of more than one million marks (£250,000) for the two titles at a time when their crowd figures had fallen sharply. Their debts are estimated at up to 11 million marks (£2.7 million).

Hamburg have tried to cash in on their success by playing a profitable series of friendly games. At the end of the season they played eight friendlies in West Germany in 11 days and have since flown abroad to play in numerous championship matches.

But last month's shock defeat to Dynamo Bucharest of Romania cost them the chance of another money-spinning run in this season's European Cup and diminished their drawing power. A win against Gremio would give them the unofficial title of world champions and enable them to recover their market value, currently around 120,000 marks (30,000), for friendlies abroad.

Hamburg's attack has not looked the same since the club transferred the forwards, Horst Ehrnsdörfer and Lars Rasmussen, at the end of last season. Dieter Schatzschneider, a £300,000 purchase, scored eight goals in the opening nine league games but was heavily criticized for lack of mobility by his manager, Ernst Happel, and a large section of the home crowd.

Since then the big centre-forward has vastly improved his work-rate but the goals have dried up. Even worse, the other close-season signing, young winger Wolfram Wuttke, has failed to score for his new club and earned a six-week suspension for spitting at an opponent in a league game.

Hamburg's most potent department remains the midfield where Felix Wagentz is supported by half-wingers like Rold, Groh and Hartwig.

## Van Breukelen to go

Brian Clough yesterday recalled the Dutch international goalkeeper, Hans Van Breukelen, into Nottingham Forest's team, and, at the same time, arranged for the player's probable transfer back to The Netherlands. The Forest manager admitted that he had "negotiated a price" for Van Breukelen, aged 27, with PSV Eindhoven, Forest's victims in the last round.

Clough added: "The player wants to go back to Holland, so there's little I can do except work out the best possible deal for the club. However, nothing is certain yet. He still has 18 months of his contract to run, and if he does leave, it will be until the close season - and it will be for a lot of money."

Van Breukelen, who cost Forest £200,000 from Utrecht, has missed the last nine games with a stress fracture of a shin. His last appearance was in the 4-0 defeat by Arsenal on October 22. Steve Sutton has been in goal since then.

The Manchester United goalkeeper, Stephen Pearce reluctantly makes his final on-loan appearance

## MONDAY'S RESULTS

Milk Cup  
Third round, third replay  
Milk Cup: Third round, third replay  
Milk Cup: Third round, third replay

# TONIGHT CARMEN WILL BE STABBED.

Charlton Athletic: R Taylor, C Coo, J Golder, P Van Hengst, T Kilduff, J Walters, K Fotheringham, P Pennant, O Bennett, O Griffiths.

Westminster: L Levy, T Staff, S Drawbell, D Coo, S Anderson, B Sullivan, D Pennant-Jones, A Spigel, P Thomson, T Horan, T Golder, Rennie A Webb.

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More cricket page 27



















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